

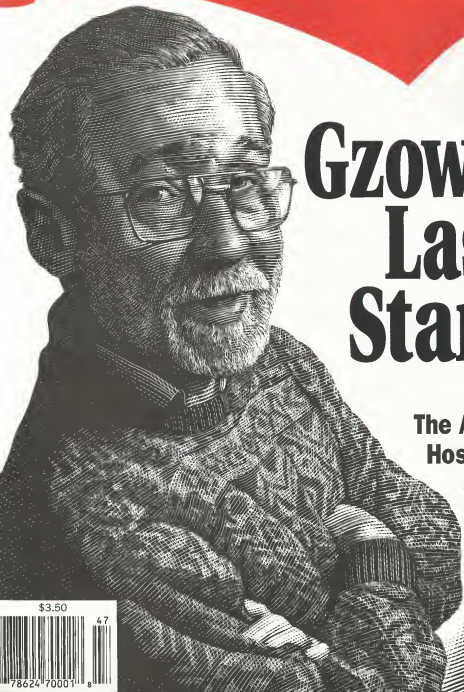
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CANADA'S

WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

# Maclean's

NOVEMBER 18, 1996



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Devout churchgoers claim they don't go to church without going to church.

## Religious differences

I enjoyed your article in the Angus Reid survey of Canadians and Americans. ("How very different we are," *Cover*, Nov. 6). Especially interesting is that, just out of five Canadians think that they can be good Christians without going to church. That is like working for General Motors but not showing up for work. If you are really a Christian, you should want to get together with other Christians and worship God. The survey indicated America is a more Christian nation than Canada.

Hal Louche,  
Monterey, B.C.

Thank you for your excellent coverage of the Angus Reid survey. We wish to draw your attention to the fact that the survey was conducted as part of a larger three-year pro-

ject, Religion and Politics in Canada and the United States, funded by Pew Charitable Trusts and directed by David Lyon, chairman of sociology and Margaret Van Die, department of history, at Queen's University, Kingston.

Margaret Van Die,  
Kingston, Ont.

I am quite certain that the poll results for "religious practices" would have displayed a higher percentage of those who "pray weekly" if the poll had been conducted in Ontario, on Parliament Hill.

Arthur Jackson,  
Collingwood, Ont.

## Days of Action

Unlike most Canadian media, *Maclean's*, in my credit, resisted the temptation to paint Ontario's labor movement as radical, and at the same time dangerous. "Days of civility" (Canada, Nov. 6), covering the Metro Days of Action was a refreshing article. Most labor-sponsored demonstrations are well-organized, work in close co-operation with the police and avoid unruly activity. Too many people seem to have forgotten that Canada's high quality of life is due largely to the commitment of all-gained workers who have fought for safeguards in such areas as health care, wages and workplace regulation.

Tony D. Shadwin,  
Secretary-General,  
Canadian Federation of Labor  
Unions

Labelling all participants in the Days of Action as "extremist and social activists" unfairly implies certain attitudes and an underlying political agenda for all who took part. I have never before felt compelled to participate in a public protest, but I will protest any government, regardless of political ideology, that intentionally polarizes society by creating class winners and losers. The only label I will accept for such action is "concerned citizen."

Henry Dyer,  
Toronto

Canadians are so used to voting in governments expecting them to reneg on campaign promises (let's face it, did we really believe the GST was on its way out?) that when we finally get someone who fully in-

## Evolution of a pope

Pope John Paul II approves of Darwin's theory of evolution ("The Pope gives the nod to Charles Darwin," *World News*, Nov. 4). He states that while the human body may have evolved from earlier apes, "the spiritual soul is immediately created by God." The evolution of the human body can be interpreted by inference within Genesis 1:25 in that operation, the basic principle of Darwin's evolution, can be understood therein. "The creature of the human soul is implicit in Genesis 1:27, the second part of which states 'male and female created He them.'" The commonly held understanding for this part is that God created the male and female genders. But another interpretation is that God infused "the spiritual soul" into already existing male and female bodies, which were the product of evolution.

C. G. Winder,  
London, Ont.

tends to follow through on his promises, we turn into a bunch of crybabies protesting the very things we wanted to see happen. Ontario Premier Mike Harris's government is not mean spirited or divisive, it is simply doing the job we asked it to do. There's a new breed of politician on the rise. These guys take their jobs seriously. In essence, they are honest—a new concept for Canadians to grasp.

Leo Wilkes,  
Toronto, Ont.

## Toronto's spunky soul

I am astonished and addressed by Alan Fotheringham's misanthropic and vindictive attack on my city, Toronto ("The newest best city in the world," *Column*, Nov. 6). As a resident writer, I've been lured by rich offers of work in New York City, Los Angeles, London, and yes, even Vancouver (which compares with Quebec City as my million-dollar city in the world), and I wouldn't leave my family out of Toronto for a trillion dollars. I love this city. It has a youthful heart and soul that blows away restrictive London and navigating Paris off the globe.

Andi Zia Letiv,  
Toronto

Take it from a Jersey girl, Mr. Fotheringham, Toronto isn't just below the international spotlight of Vancouver, but is certainly the spark that makes North American West Coast cities tick.

Marian Ross,  
Bayview, N.J.

LET ME WIN, BUT IF I CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE BEATEN, LET ME BE BEATEN BY THE OPPONENT.  
—Special Olympics athlete's oath



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS CREATOR, FRANK HAYDEN, RECEIVES THE 1996 ROYAL BANK AWARD.



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# TAKE the BRIGHT SIDE of the ROAD

## An American View



# Fred Bruning What Clinton should do in his second term

**T**he U.S. presidential election of 1996 was the consequence of a chaotic party. Bill Clinton, the incumbent, challenged Republican challenger Bob Dole—a nod to the familiar over the obscure. No great issues were raised, no memorable debates conducted, no vision of national purpose revealed. Clinton, 50, spread his feel-good gospel and lulled the new century. Dole, 73, scolded and warned the past. Passion, drama, complexity, substance—all were missing. If the election had been a Broadway production, it would have folded during previews.

Proven again was the axiom that function follows form—that, in long time politics, appearances count more than ideas and that experience is Job 1. Dole, the former senator, thought Americans would embrace a conservative candidate from Kansas who vowed to cut taxes, get government off our backs, and return America to the correct, hardworking outdoors who never ask for anything. That was Dole's mistake. He forgot that each voter conceals a small, special-interest group. Getting rid of Clinton was one thing. Getting rid of government was another.

Clinton was smarter. He knew that candidates had to pay lip-service to the nearly crowd by taking swipes at welfare recipients and underpaid managers, but that the country was in no mood to leave the federal bureaucracy. The President, an Arkansas homeboy at heart, is brilliant at serving public sentiment and emerges as the quintessential politician for the 90s. Here is a fellow who knows how to give voters what voters think they want—a trick that passes for leadership these days.

And what voters crave is aid and comfort. Giving it alone is most certainly not an agenda. "We've got a bridge to build, and I'm ready if you are," Clinton told supporters after becoming the first Democratic elected executive to be re-elected in half a century. GOP critics howled the only bridge Clinton built was the one leading to their camp—that, evidently, the President succeeded as a crumb Republican. Exactly the case. Maybe Dole should have used the same thing.

Instead of complaining, Republican chiefs had better check their cynicism of the way Americans relate to government. Just two years ago, House Speaker Newt Gingrich claimed victory for rightist forces and did so with each stuporous, headline plea that he alienated precisely the people he was trying to enroll. So therapy was Gingrich in his denunciation of Washington that arbitrary Americans began to worry that the Capitol soon would be recaptured into condominiums, and federal agencies turned over to franchise operators.

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No thanks, said the American people and Gingrich soon vanished from the front page. More to the point, he disappeared from the campaign. Republican candidates ducked Gingrich like he was the repo man while Democratic attack ads linked opponents to the Speaker whenever possible. Republicans wanted to keep control of the House and Senate—an achievement that largely reflects the preference of U.S. voters for the status quo. A GOP majority allows Gingrich to continue as Speaker. The question is, who's listening?

As for Bill Clinton—who knows? Maybe the guy is such a compulsive political operator that he will persist in the Candidate Mode through his second term. Maybe he is so accustomed to making shrewd moves that he will flip-flop forever, sounding one day like Franklin Roosevelt, the next like Ronald Reagan. As the GOP persists on, Clinton, not re-elected by assuring Americans he was not their father's kind of Democrat and declaring "big government," Via prove it, he signed a welfare "reform" bill that might even have given Reagan pause. Then Clinton said he would try to fix his major agenda of the law in his second term. Republicans? Democrats? What?

Here is a fellow who craves consensus and personal acceptance but takes wild chances with his career and reputation—the Jennifer Flowers fiasco, the brutal White House land scheme, scandals involving dismissal of the White House travel staff and improper use of FBI files, and, most recently, charges that Clinton officials accepted improper campaign contributions from foreign sources. Some folks like to live on the edge, and the President may be more of a lounge-lifter than most. There is something endearing, of course, about having a daredevil in the Oval Office, and Clinton may have charmed voters with his evergreeniness—the main reason why Republican snafus beat the President's character proved futile. As usual, Dole didn't get it, caught between newly tapped a politician. On these shores, honesty is the one unarguable crime.

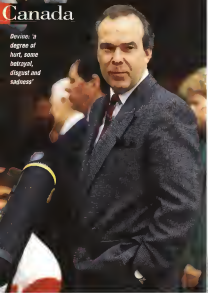
But, in politics and private life, Clinton must do better. Republicans would like nothing more than to lasso him for another term with charges of scandal and ineptitude. It's the game losers play. Clinton said out presenting the opposition such an easy target—and that means more than cutting down on concerned bed sandwiches and abused baristas. The President should return to his Democratic roots. He should stress work, not strategy. A relatively young man with years of productivity before him, Clinton finally needs to get straight with himself. The time has come for the White House to decide what he wants to be when he grows up.

Fred Bruning is a writer with Newsday in New York





Devine: "a degree of hurt, some betrayal, disgust and sadness"



## The Saskatchewan fraud trials fuel public cynicism

"Greed is good."

**F**armers, those three words, uttered by the villainous farmer Gordon Gekko in Oliver Stone's 1983 film *Wall Street*, sum up the Eighties—a decade of excess, self-aggrandizement and corruption. As it turns out, some members of former Saskatchewan premier Grant Devine's Conservative government were doing their own bit to live down to the era's prevailing ethos. In what is easily the biggest political scandal in Saskatchewan's history, no fewer than 32 members of Devine's government—which was swept out of office in 1991 after nine years in power—have been charged in relation to a scheme that defrauded taxpayers of over

than \$857,000. So far, six of those charged have been convicted and three others acquitted in an unfolding saga that is tarnishing not only personal reputations, but the political process as a whole. The *Wary second* al says University of Regina political scientist Howard Leeson is looking into "the tremendous cynicism towards politics that we see today."

The nonprosecution of the trials to date—that of former Tory whip Michael Hooper, who pleaded not guilty to two charges of fraud over \$50,000 and one count of conspiracy to commit fraud—was scheduled for later cases in the court's calendar. But the government has now withdrawn its case against Hooper and opted to be tried by Solicitor General Court of Quebec's Bench Justice Ross Winter at Quebec, in Hooper's words, "because he could not get a fair jury trial at home where there's a lot of people out there who hate politicians." He also appointed a number of judges to the court, including Justice Gauthier and his former deputy premier, Sébastien Lévesque, has pointed strongly to suggest that the Tory scandal reached into the most sensitive echelons of the provincial party. Portraying himself as a scapegoat, Hooper told Maclean's last week that "the reason I'm here is so that I can tell you the truth about what happened, detected and kept at arm's length. Others had to have knowledge or this kind of money could not have been transferred around."

The rest of the current controversy were planted in 1887, when Devine's caucus agreed to pool 25 per cent of the communications allowances that MLAs are entitled to receive from the legislature into a central account. The Crown has alleged that some members of the Devine government agreed separate allowance claims that were submitted to the legislature along with the others. The claim is supported by John Scruba, then the caucus communications director. Many of the invoices were for services never rendered, or for expenses that were illegitimate. After the invoices were approved by the legislature's finance officers, cheques were issued to the phoney companies. These monies were then funnelled back to several

members said. Scribe in the form of cost and methodology.

Police were first alerted to the scam in July, 1991, when legislator Clark Gwynn Roost reported some suspicious activities. The investigation received a boost in April, 1992, when a Regina bank branch opened a safety deposit box after its registered owner failed to respond to notification that the bank was moving. Inside the box were 100 \$1,000 bills. The owner's name proved to be bogus, but his address was quite revealing: Roost 2031. Saskatchewan legislators like Terry Cousens allege. After contacting other banks, police uncovered a second safety deposit box, under the same phoney name, that contained 90 \$1,000 bills.

In April, 1985, police laid charges against Scraba and 12 current or former Tory MLAs. By the fall, Scraba had been sentenced to two

years less a day after pleading guilty to fraud. He served only four months and has recently worked as a disc jockey in Edmonton. At about the same time, former circus chairman Larne McLaren also entered guilty pleas. Receiving the stiffer sentence in this, McLaren was given 3½ years for his central role in organizing the \$837,000 fraud. McLaren served eight months in jail, at 68, he now spends his nights in a Salvation Army hostel in Angus that acts as a halfway house and during the day returns to his home, 60 km northeast.

The Tory banding scandal has combined elements of the cocaine and the triple O that those convicted, Seneca cabinet minister for Domestic Affairs, pleaded guilty to defrauding the Saskatchewan government of \$122,025. Deacon, who was fined \$5,000 and ordered to make full restitution, told the court that she accepted money from Seneca in a fit of pique over being dropped from cabinet and spent it on a flower on vacation. Another former Tory MLA, Gerald Mithelard, was fined guilty of fraud after he purchased a \$2,800 riding saddle and bridle saddle engraved with his name and MLA title that he displayed in small-town parks. Mithelard, who was fined \$500, is seeking leave in appeal his case to the Supreme Court of Canada.

In a stark earlier scene, former cabinet minister Jack Wolfe questioned suicide in February, 1956, leaving behind a pregnant wife and three young children. The 29-year-old Wolfe, who had been questioned by police but not charged, left a note to his family saying, "I love you all too much to have you bear the pain of having my name and reputation destroyed because of the partisan political interests of others."

The most recent fraud trial also had its bizarre moments. Testifying in his own defense last week, the 48-year-old Hopper was asked questions—which he had prepared himself for—by an assistant to his chartered accountant. As soon as Hopper completed his testimony, he called the accountant, John Fitzhanson, as his legal witness. Fitzhanson's main role appeared to be to convince the court that Hopper backed the business survey in current fraud on the scale alleged. "I viewed your understanding of financial affairs as almost negligible," Fitzhanson told Hopper in court. He also testified that Hopper often signed blank checks and put his signature on other financial documents before they were properly filled out.

But perhaps the most explosive testimony came on Oct. 34, when another former caucus chairman, Nyles Moran, told the court that Devine had approved a plan in 1985 to transfer \$455,000—an amount unrelated to the \$337,000 fraud scheme—in surplus caucus funds into an investment account. There is nothing illegal about such a transfer and the transaction bears no direct

relevance to the trial charges before the court. But Mann's assistants drew a blistering response from Dennis, who the next day sent a statement to reporters declaring: "In my entire political career, I have never been involved in, approved, or condoned or even been aware of any illegal activity or wrongdoing."

A month earlier, Devine had testified that he was too busy during his years in power to pay attention to caucus finances. During the courtroom trial, he said that, as former party leader, he accepted responsibility for the funding scandal— even though he had known nothing about it. While he stands by those comments, Devine cannot disclose his conversation over how the fiscal changes have cast a pall over himself and his government. "There's no way to defend yourself," Devine told Mackinnon's last week. "The whole process has turned into a free-for-all and you're guilty by innuendo." Added Devine: "It's like an unexpected storm in your side that catches you by surprise and takes a long time to heal. You feel a degree of hurt, some betrayal, disbelief and sadness."

In fact, the evidence emerging from the fraud trials only adds to the already heavy baggage that provincial Tories carry from their most recent stint in power. For many, the Devlin years are synonymous with profligacy, an image underscored by the Th

rise fiscal record. After taking over balanced books in 1982, the Tories spent liberally on a number of voter-friendly initiatives, including tax rebates and mortgage subsidies, as well as investing billions in several money-losing megaprojects. Under the Tories, the provincial deficit peaked at \$1.2 billion in 1986-1987, and the accumulated debt rose from \$3.5 billion to \$12 billion.



BRADY HUGHMAN and  
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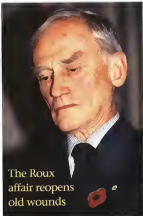
# Paying for the past

In the end, no one had to tell Jean-Louis Roux that the show could not go on. One of Canada's most distinguished actors, the 73-year-old Roux had been the subject of controversy ever since his August 8 appointment as Quebec's interim governor. Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard complained that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien had not consulted with him over the appointment, while other Quebec sovereigntists scoffed over Roux's frequent and outspoken opposition to their cause. But ultimately, the final curtain came down on Roux's brief tenure far removed from anything that ostensibly had nothing to do with sovereignty or independence. Rather, the sovereigntists' scorn—sharp and emotional—by-passed after creating an upsurge in his acceptance of the neoconservative *Le Devoir* that, as a university student in 1945, he practiced a sociology on his medical lab coat and took part in anti-consumption demonstrations with anti-Semitic overtones. "The thoughtless business of youth," Roux said, could not be allowed to serve as "no excuse" for his actions, "and especially as an justification."

The emphasis of Roux's decision to resign, which came within 72 hours of publication of the article, ended the debate over whether he should stay in office. But it gave life to larger questions, notably how accountable public figures should be for long past actions. Another specific matter, said author and historian Irving Abella, a former president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, is the need to recognize that "antisemitism was most overt in Quebec in the 1930s and '40s—by no less evident as the rest of the country."

Roux, of course, is far from the first Canadian public figure whose wartime actions are widely mourned by many today's standards. Pierre Trudeau, for instance, once donned a 19th-century German army helmet to ride his motorcycle through rural Quebec on a visit to a group of friends, among them Roux. Quebec historian André Delbecq's *The Theatre and The Jew*, published in 1992, recounts in devastating detail how anti-Semitism was part of Trudeau's intellectual training in French Quebec in the 1930s and '40s. English Canada fans

no better, according to Abella, whose 1992 book, *Was It True Many*, recounts how the federal government plotted to keep Jews suffering from Nazi persecution out of Canada. Even within Canada, Jews often found themselves as the outside looking in as Abella documented, most universities across Canada had quotas on



**The Roux affair reopens old wounds**

Roux resigning last week, reacting to an act of anti-Semitism

the number of Jews they allowed to enroll, and Jews were barred or limited from such professions as medicine or architecture.

People close to Roux say that he had previously discussed his past actions and expressed contrition for them. And for the past 50 years, he has been a consistent champion of human rights. Once his wartime history became public last week, however, the Roux affair inevitably became entangled in the bitter politics of present-day Quebec. Although the debate broke down generally along federalist-sovereigntist

lines, it also underscored the inability of the federal Liberals and their provincial counterparts to agree on almost anything. The federal Liberals, led by the Prime Minister, wanted Roux to stay in office. "I did not fire him," Chrétien insisted. But the provincial Liberals were prepared to side with the Parti Québécois on a planned lawsuit in the interim of suitably calling on Roux to resign. The Quebec Liberals, carrying an adviser to Chrétien, "are very keen" about when it comes to denouncing any "outrage."

Some observers found more than a whiff of hypocrisy in the debate. Members of the Parti Québécois and Bloc Québécois charged within the Jewish community as their rationale for demanding the resignation of Roux. But Jewish groups refused from making such a demand—while the PQ and BQ turned down their rhetoric after federal Liberals pointed out that two former Parti Québécois ministers signed petitions in the 1950s calling for a convicted French war criminal to be allowed to remain in Canada. Marcelle Richer, who has often written about anti-Semitism among Quebec nationalists, observed wryly in an interview with *Montréal's* that "it is teaching to see how the PQ is so concerned for its people." But Richer was unimpressed by Roux's initial defence, that his 1942 actions were motivated only by a "mischievous desire to show off." In them, Richer said, "there was widespread evidence of Nazi persecution of Jews in a manner that was something far more than mischievous."

Now, in the aftermath, all sides are vying for the political upper hand. Bouchard called for the abolition of the voteless post—a step that would require constitutional change. Spokespersons for the country's two largest Jewish groups, B'nai B'rith and the CJC, said they hoped the incident would cause Canadians to examine their history and attitudes more closely. And officials in Chrétien's office said they hoped to announce a successor to Roux "very soon"—although they will likely check the next appointee's credentials more carefully. Last week, Roux said he hoped his grandchildren, when they reach their 20s, "will show more wisdom than I." Still, if he departs from office, controversy will undoubtedly be contributed more to public life than most lieutenant-governors.

ANTHONY WILSON-SMITH in Ottawa

# Grounding the Eagle

Corruption charges clip a hockey bigwig's wings

For a few minutes, it was like watching someone looking back from the days when Alan Eagleson was one of the most powerful men in professional hockey. Seemingly dressed in a navy blue blazer, white shirt and grey pants, the 63-year-old lawyer, on-ice player agent and former executive-director of the NHL's Players' Association, stood at the centre of a circle of attentive reporters. He talked quickly, laughed loudly, and his face was lit by a smile that exuded warmth and charm. But the small talk ended, and Eagleson's manner changed sharply, when several microphone-wielding reporters asked him. And no wonder it was time to return to the cramped Toronto court room where, earlier that day, Eagleson had been accused of defrauding one of his former clients, retired Boston Bruins defenseman Mike Gillis, and cheating him out of \$54,800 in insurance money.

The accusations came from Charles Scott, Gillis's lawyer, at the end of a seven-week trial that had to determine whether Eagleson had indeed his client, or merely collected a legitimate fee for services rendered. Justice Joseph O'Rourke is expected to spend a month assessing the evidence before reaching a decision. But regardless of the outcome, Eagleson is likely to spend the next few years defending himself. The Law Society of Upper Canada has charged him with 44 counts of professional misconduct. The U.S. Attorney's Office in Boston is attempting to extradite him so he can stand trial on 34 charges including racketeering, fraud, embezzlement and obstruction of justice. By year's end, he may face more charges when the RCMP wraps up its own three-year-old investigation. "I thought a seven-week trial would have been fair," says Charles Wray, the lawyer defending Eagleson in the Gillis case. "But not him. He always seems upset and ready to go."

Eagleson is 66, saying how he has handled his fall from grace since resigning in 1991 as head of the NHLPA—an organization he founded in 1967 and ran like a personal fiefdom. His lawyers have prohibited him from speaking publicly—except in court. Eagle-



Eagleson leaving court last week, awaiting judgment by

son, in fact, spent nearly seven days on the witness stand in the Gillis case. But his performance drew predictable bleak reviews from Scott. On one key question—why got the \$54,800? Eagleson collected from Gillis—Scott said, "He was unable to deal in a straightforward manner with what happened to the money. We went around that in backhanded ways so we were all left up."

At one while attacking Eagleson's credibility as a witness, Scott conceded that he had done a good job of getting Gillis's insurance claim. Gillis, now a 37-year-old lawyer and player agent based in Kingston, Ont., retired from hockey after breaking his right

leg at the Bruins training camp in September, 1986. He later filed for \$365,000 in disability insurance under three policies, purchased through the NHL and NHLPA from Lloyd's of London. Eagleson, then Gillis's agent and financial adviser, got involved in late 1985 after learning from the former player that the insurers had twice rejected his claim.

Gillis testified that he did not discuss his claim with Eagleson until April and May 25, 1986, when he and his wife, Diane, met Eagleson in Toronto. The Gillis couple testified that they, then, saw no problems had arisen and he would have to leave U.S. and British legal advisers at a cost of 10 per cent of any settlement over \$300,000. They agreed, and by mid-September, 1986, the claim was paid in full, minus the 15-per-cent fee, which came to \$54,800.

Satisfied with the outcome, they forgot about the matter until 1994, when they read a newspaper account of Eagleson's legal problems. The allegations—most forcefully raised by reporter Russ Conway of the *Lawrenceville, Mass., Republic Tribune*—included allegations from other former players about questionable insurance claim payments. Upon investigating, the Offices discovered that insurers had notified Eagleson on May 13, 1986—10 days before the couple met with Eagleson—that they would honor two of the claims. Concluded Scott, "There were an U.S. or British advisors, only Mr. Eagleson."

In his defence, Eagleson testified that he and Gillis had agreed to the 15-per-cent fee during a meeting at Eagleson's Toronto offices on July 12, 1986—a meeting Gillis says never took place. Eagleson maintained that when he went into the May 29 meeting, he believed he would need outside advisers to help settle the third policy. In his final arguments, Wray admitted that Eagleson had no written records to back his version of these events. Nevertheless, Wray denied that there had been any deception. On the contrary, he said, Eagleson did his job and deserved to be paid.

At this point, Eagleson's lawyers say they are uncertain where or when his next legal battle will take place because they have received nothing from American justice officials about the U.S. charges, or extradition proceedings. But one thing is certain: American former NHLers are anxiously awaiting their chance to face off against the man who once walked such a big stick in their sport and their lives.

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## Canada NOTES

### ANGRY DOCTORS

In the escalating fight between the Ontario government and the province's doctors, thousands of physicians refused to see new patients as they protested against salary caps, doublebacks and limits on where new doctors can practise. Many doctors were also enraged by a letter from Health Minister Jim Wilson, who urged the College of Physicians and Surgeons to take action against the work-to-rule campaign.

### MONTREAL TRAGEDY

Charles Biers, a six-year-old autistic boy, drowned in the bathtub of his Montreal home. His mother, Danielle Biers, who was found nearby with her wrists slashed in a failed suicide attempt, was charged with murder. But Peter Zwick, president of the Quebec Autism Society, said Biers, a single mother, should not have to go to jail. "Her life was a nightmare," he said.

### MANNING'S PITCH

Reform Leader Preston Manning told business leaders in Toronto that if he were elected prime minister he would cut taxes by \$5.4 billion in Ontario. Earlier in the week, Manning promised Atlantic Canadians a \$3-billion tax cut. Liberals claimed that Manning's proposal lacked specifics—and would result in gutted social programs.

### JACQUES IN THE BOX

On the heels of his Oct. 30 article in *Le Devoir*, former Quebec premier Jacques Parizeau popped up again in a Quebec TV interview to continue his onslaught on successor Lucien Bouchard. Parizeau claimed that the current premier was acting to support federalist Jacques Michaud to head Hydro-Quebec. He also confirmed that his government had put aside a \$10-billion nest egg to offset an economic crisis in the event of a Yes vote in last year's referendum.

### ROUGH RIDE

Canadian Football League commissioner Larry Smith revealed the Ottawa Rough Riders franchise from Chicago-based owner Norm Chivers, who failed to pay the team's bills. The Riders, who have played in Ottawa for 115 years, may yet find a team—but will likely be renamed because Chivers still owns the rights to the name and logo.

## Allegations of murder

Native leaders say the case is reminiscent of the notorious cover-up of the 1991 Helen Betty Osborne murder in The Pas. And last week they took their anger over the April 25 killing of Dorothy Martin, also of The Pas, to the Manitoba Legislature. Hundreds of aboriginals demonstrated outside the building, accusing the RCMP of dragging its feet in the investigation of Martin's aboriginal slaying, then they made their way inside to block the entrance to Justice Minister Ramsey Voth's office. Vothrey eventually agreed to meet with community leaders in a later date—and to discuss reform claims that Martin's death is further proof of a justice system that discriminates against aboriginals.

The 33-year-old native woman was shot in the face while struggling over a sword-cut slugging with her Caucasian husband, Gerald Robert Wilson, 38. Native leaders claim Martin was murdered. But Wilson, who is white, says Martin's death was an accident, and has only been charged with two weapons offences. "It's been six months but they don't have enough evidence for criminal proceedings," said Philip Bark, chief of the



Martin's mother, Marilyn, with Bark, outrage

Manitoba First Nations. "That's hell." The RCMP said a charge of criminal negligence causing death may be forthcoming, but that did little to soothe native leaders. In the Osborne case, they noted, it took more than a decade before charges were laid, while only one of three white men charged with the Cree teenager's murder was convicted.

### priority

## Too many hungry kids

Hungry children—that theme cropped up last week under disparate circumstances. In Philadelphia, a United Nations Commission report said

that half of the province's schoolchildren—about 55,000—are likely to eat less than twice a day and those incomes they are coming to drive hungry. According to the report, part of the solution lies in more school meal programs.

That was also the answer put forward in Ontario, where Premier Mike Harris announced a \$5-million

school breakfast program. But Harris put his foot in his mouth, suggesting that there had been better "50 or 10 years ago when mothers stayed home and cooked." "How dare you blame mothers for the poverty of children," New Democratic Finance Minister John Cummer fired back in the legislature. "Our children don't live in our communities any more."

## The China syndrome

Environmentalists and civil rights advocates were stunned. The federal government said that it would amend existing laws to enforce the \$4-billion sale of two

Candu nuclear reactors to China from a full federal review. "It was never the intention that a full environmental assessment under the act would be required in foreign

countries," said Trade Minister Art Eggleton, adding that the amendments would clear up ambiguities in the federal regulations. The Candu deal likely will be signed by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien during his Nov. 28 visit to Shanghai. Federal officials pointed out that Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. might very well conduct its own environmental assessment. "That would amount to little more than a rubber stamp," said Kristen Gelling of the Campaign for Nuclear Non-Use. "This is the cost of doing business with dictators," she declared. Added Elizabeth May of the Sierra Club of Canada: "Chrétien always said that trade would make countries like China more democratic. But we are not making China more democratic—China is making us less democratic."

# Now, the hard part

ANDREW  
PHILLIPS  
IN WASHINGTON

After a campaign that had gone on so long it felt like it had no beginning, the political professionals in Washington seemed determined that it would have an end. The day after President Bill Clinton, heady with re-election and his Republican rivals confirmed their hold on the U.S. Congress, Christopher Dodd and Haley Barbour were still doing it out at a joint appearance in the capital. Dodd, chairman of the Democratic party, held up a year-old copy of an American newsmagazine whose cover asked pointedly: "The Democrats in the party over?" Rumors of his party's imminent demise, Dodd remarked with evident satisfaction, had been greatly exaggerated. Barbour, the grizzled Republican chairman, shot back that while Clinton may have extended his tenure in the White House, he did it by stealing the Republicans' political clothes. "Bill Clinton campaigned as a moderate Republican," Barbour intoned in the rich cadences of his native Mississippi. "This election was a victory for Republican ideas."

Stop—you're both right. Clinton's resurrection from the political grave in which his opponents had him took more than a year ago was a political triumph, but it was more than that. It broke the election jinx that had hung over Democratic presidents since the days of Franklin Delano Roosevelt two generations ago. And it was testament to the wretched inertia and desirability of a political party quick to erase which way the winds of public opinion are blowing—and just as quick to shift with them. But it was also true that American voters confirmed the move to the right



The Clintons and Gores return to the White House in triumph, just broken

that they began two years ago when they rebuked Clinton by handing control of Congress to the Republicans for the first time since 1940. In the next Congress, Republicans will outnumber Democrats in the Senate by 55 to 45 (over more than they held last time), and in the House of Representatives by 302 to 197, with one independent (and fewer than the Republicans had before).

Coupled with the President's own decision, now away from the liberal agenda of his first two years, the direction of American politics is clear: "The general right-wing drift continues," said Alex Castellanos, a top media adviser to Republican Bob Dole's losing campaign. "And if you don't believe me, ask the guy with the best political instincts in America [Bill Clinton]."

On the surface, last week's election changed little. And Clinton immediately acknowledged the message that voters apparently sent: they want to keep power divided, and want their leaders to work together. "The vital American crisis is alive and well," the President declared to supporters gathered on a warm evening before the white colonnades of the Old State House in Little Rock, Ark., the place where he acknowledged victory for the first time four years ago.

The next day, politicians of all stripes began singing the traditional post-election chorus of cooperation. Clinton had defeated the hapless Dole by a margin of 49 to 42 per cent, after a one-sided campaign that saw the 73-year-old Kansas lurch from one gaffe to another. Nine per cent went to Texas Ross Perot, who picked up support in the last 10 days of the campaign by hammering the Democrats relentlessly over improper campaign contributions from foreign sources. (Less than half the eligible electorate, 59 per cent, bothered to vote, the lowest turnout in 72 years.)

Republicans, notably conservative House Speaker Newt Gingrich of Georgia, promised to get along with the White House—but it is virtually certain that Clinton's second term will be far from smooth. A booming economy, which paved the way for his easy victory, cannot last forever. And while the President managed to push aside the raft of ethical questions surrounding him for the duration of the campaign, they will surely be back to haunt him. Four independent prosecutors are looking into the tangled maze of financial and political scandals looping at the edges of the White House—from the Whitewater land deal to why Clinton aides improperly obtained FBI files on some 300 people, including senior Republicans.

Now, there is another spreading controversy that Republicans are already digging into: the disclosure that foreign companies gave millions of dollars to the Democratic party in violation of American election laws. Republicans have also accepted such money in the past, but that will not stop them from using the issue against Clinton. Many of the Republicans elected to both the Senate and the House for the first time are more conservative than those they replaced—and less likely to cooperate with Clinton. And some of those who were re-elected already seemed to be gearing for a fight last week.

One of them is Kansas to Canadian. Republican congressman

Dan Burton of Indiana, the co-sponsor with re-elected North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms of the Helms-Burton Act, which seeks to penalize foreign companies that do business with Fidel Castro's Cuba. In the new Congress that will be sworn in next January, he is far to the right of his own conservative colleagues on reform and oversight, and he is increasingly named in controversies—and possibly exposed—investigations into White House scandals. "Nobody's above the law," Burton declared.

Many others agreed that the next four years will see bitter fights between Congress and the White House, despite last week's sweet-talk from the leaders of both parties. Christopher Galt, a former policy adviser to Clinton, warned that the increased polarization in Congress bodes ill for the President's second term. "There just won't be a Pax Clinton," he said bluntly. And Steve Gerdman, a liberal Republican congressman from Wisconsin who did not run for re-election after 16 years in the House, lamented that Republicans who are losing Congress are disproportionately moderate, while those just arriving are far to the right. "I'll be, will you support Bill Clinton or will you be the party line?" he said. "The pressure to co-operate with the White House will be great."

The other area that was virtually agreed during the campaign but which will almost certainly loom large in Clinton's second term is foreign policy. For Canada, the re-election of the President and a Republican Congress confirms an era of generally easy relations—with the notable exception of the Helms-Burton law (page 18). For the rest of the world, it means the administration will finally turn to sensitive issues it put on hold until last week. The first is Bosnia: by the end of December the United States must decide what kind of military force it will keep there to enforce the peace accord negotiated last year in Dayton, Ohio. The second is the long-pending decision to force the withdrawal of 52,000 soldiers, including 55,000 Americans, in due to leave completely by mid-March—although the President last week gave the first indication that some U.S. troops might stay on after that deadline as part of a wider NATO operation.

Another decision the White House must move quickly on, and which also has implications for Canada, is the future of the United Nations' secretary general, 73-year-old Boutros Boutros-Ghali. The Clinton administration, responding to intense anti-UN sentiment in Congress, opposes reappointing Boutros-Ghali when his four-year term expires at the end of December. This has pined the United States against most other UN members—including Canada, which backed the secretary general's quest for a second term. "This is an extraordinary moment on the part of the administration," says Richard Hanson, director of foreign policy studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington and a member of the National Security Council under president George Bush. "They're out on a limb."

Clinton began to reposition his administration for those challenges, and others, immediately after his re-election. A raft of cabinet members and senior White House aides told him they could no longer, beginning with Secretary of State Warren Christopher and



Dole considers Clinton's offer to ease

## WORLD

Defense Secretary William Perry, Leon Panetta, his chief of staff, also quit—and was quickly replaced by Ericine Bowles, an investment banker from North Carolina and longtime Clinton friend. The President attempted to maintain the upbeat post-election mood, outgoing to reporters in Washington his agenda of balancing the federal budget, completing welfare reform, upgrading education and putting new controls on campaign financing. But less than three days after sweeping to victory, he found himself leading off questions about the ethical cloud over his administration. Americans, he said, had just voted and "I think they gave me their trust."

Clinton will need that trust, and more, to carry out his plan for a second term. During the campaign, he and Vice-President Al Gore stuck mainly to modest, inexpensive promises—many targeted at women voters who supported the Democratic ticket by a massive margin of 54 to 38 per cent. They include a tax break in addition to encourage more students to go to community colleges, giving parents more choices in which public schools their children could attend, and providing national education vouchers. A much more difficult job will be ensuring the long-term viability of Medicare and the national pension plan. Social Security, already loomed large and their demands on both systems increased.

But Clinton's biggest domestic legacy may well be an ironic one for a Democratic president: cutting the size of government. Unlike



Clinton has increased polarization in Congress before it for Clinton

Ronald Reagan and George Bush, who spent a lot of time talking about downsizing government while creating more federal jobs and running up record deficits, Clinton has sliced government to an unparallel size since the administration of John F. Kennedy in the early 1960s. Washington's budget deficit has fallen 60 per cent since 1992 to \$157 billion, and the federal bureaucracy has shrunk by 343,000 positions.

"He has to go to the middle, and with less money available his agenda will be significantly limited," notes James Thurber, professor of government at American University in Washington.

That leaves relatively little scope for Clinton to carve out the place in history he clearly desires. Judging by the mixed record of his first term, he still needs significant accomplishments to ensure his future stardom. That, of course, is difficult in such unheroic times as these, without the challenges of an unrelenting economic misery. At the age of just 58, he is only the 15th man to win two consecutive terms as president, and the modern track record is a troubled one. Presidents as varied as Roosevelt, Nixon and Reagan have found their second terms much more difficult than their first four years. Last week, Clinton came alone when a reporter asked him whether he had reflected on the life of Billie Holiday, he had even read a recent book on presidential second terms. He had learned that presidents are often derided the second time around by outsiders outside events, by believing they have a bigger mandate than they really have, or "sometimes the president essentially just runs out of steam."

Clinton, naturally, resisted he has no intention of letting any of that happen. He understands the message voters delivered last Tuesday, he said, and he intends to reinstate a "dividing agenda" to avoid the danger of running out of political gas. "That is very much of history's difficulties," Clinton reflected, "and I'm going to try to have them." The odds, at least, are not with him. □



Clinton's first design

## Cleaning house

Even for incumbents, the transition from one presidential term to the next is traditionally a time of housecleaning. But this time was really flying last week inside the White House and the staff fortresses of executive branch Washington, with the most sweeping senior staff changes since the Nixon era. By week's end, six members of Clinton's cabinet and a slew of White House aides had announced they were leaving office, often from simple resignation. First to hand in his resignation was Secretary of State Warren Christopher, 71, who will step down after Clinton's Jan 20 inauguration. First to be appointed was North Carolina investment banker Ericine Bowles, whom Clinton quickly named to replace outgoing chief of staff Leon Panetta. Bowles, a 51-year-old Clinton loyalist who served as deputy chief in 1995, has won the President's trust in delicate areas. He gave little ground when he faced a Senate Whitewater committee hearing, and he convinced top campaign strategists Dick Morris to resign after one of his affairs with a prostitute surfaced. Clinton plans to name at least one Republican to cabinet, although early speculation failed that it would be the former military chief Colin Powell as secretary of state. Democrats expect it would give him too high a profile for the 2000 presidential campaign. Former Maine senator George Mitchell and UN ambassador Madeleine Albright held the list for the top foreign affairs post. Among others Clinton must replace are Defense Secretary William Perry and the secretaries of Transportation, Energy, Housing and Labor. Also expected to go is a senior political adviser George Stephanopoulos—the last of the young brain pack of Clinton's 1992 campaign.

WOMI MORRIS with correspondent's reports

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**Brian (left) celebrates with a powerful anti-Castro ally**

Unlike Brian Mulroney, who cultivated a warm personal relationship with both Ronald Reagan and George Bush, Clinton has never sought to be Clinton's pal. In fact, he at first played the opposite card: his aides made much of the fact that in his first letter to Clinton after becoming prime minister in 1995, he omitted out "Dear Bob" at the top and replaced it with the more formal "Dear Mr. President." Since then, the two men have met about a dozen times and have driven somewhat closer. They have joked together twice. Canadian officials say they enjoy "a good working relationship"—sometimes appended to "a very good working relationship."

That relationship was smoothed considerably while James Blatchford, one of Clinton's closest associates, was American ambassador in Ottawa. Blatchford had easy access to the President, but he left Ottawa last March to work on Clinton's re-election campaign. He was not replaced—and a new ambassador cannot be named until at least February when the Senate, which must confirm such appointments, resumes its work. That means the United States will not have an ambassador to its most important trading partner for at least 11 months—and probably longer. To some analysts, that amounts to a snub. "I can't believe they kept that open," says Steven Black, consultant for Canadian allies in the American Society in New York City. "It's terribly insulting not to have a high-profile ambassador in Ottawa for so long."

Publicly, Canadian officials insist the vacancy is a sign the relationship between Ottawa and Washington is so secure and strong that it can burn along even without a U.S. ambassador in place. Privately, they hope Blatchford will end up in Clinton's new cabinet—bringing a high level of knowledge about Canada to the President's inner circle. And some analysts argue that the ongoing vacancy is actually a sign of how highly the ambassador's post in Ottawa is prized. Charles Donohue, director of Canadian studies at the School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, maintains that "it's not that they don't want to fill it. It's that there's real competition for this job."

*Aide from the New Jersey Senate race.*

## WORLD UNITED STATES

# Good news, bad news

**A**mid the literally thousands of political contests decided across the United States last week, one of the most closely watched was the bitter fight to fill vacant Senate seats in New Jersey. For Americans, the battle between conservative Republicans Richard Zuccarino and Robert Tortorella, a Democratic Democrat whose nickname is "the Torch" and whose claims to fame include being a sometime lover of Bianca Jagger, was an entertaining if sometimes irrelevant, subplot that set new laws in negative advertising that there were other candidates in the Senate. But for Canadians reading the tea leaves of U.S. politics last week, Tortorella's decisive victory over Zuccarino was a glimmer of bad news and a quality positive outcome. The news has been a sharp critic of Canada over both trade issues and Cuban policy, and his elevation to the Senate will mean a higher profile for a man who is in the words of one Canadian observer, "a leader but not a leader."

For the most part, though, Canadians could take heart from American voters' decision to give Bill Clinton a new lease on the White House and leave Republicans in control of both houses of Congress. "We're left with pretty much what we had before in both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue, and that's a situation we can take some comfort in," said a senior official at Canada's embassy in Washington—which symbolically occupies a prime position on the thoroughfare that connects the two power centers. If the Demo-

crats had regained control of the House of Representatives, Canadians would have been concerned that the Democratic leader, Richard Gephardt of Missouri, might have steered more protectionist course on what matters most to Canada, trade. But with Republicans reinstalled on Capitol Hill, the main irritant between the two countries remains the Helms-Burton Act, the American law that penalizes foreign companies trading with Cuba, Canada, Mexico and the European Union are lobbying hard to have it changed, but the outcome is still far from clear.

The issue came up almost immediately between Clinton and Jean Chrétien when the Prime Minister placed the traditional day-after phone call of congratulations to the President. Clinton called a few minutes after noon on Wednesday from his Presidential Hill office, and White House operators patched him through to Air Force One as Clinton was flying back to Washington from Little Rock, Ark. The two men spoke for about five minutes, and Chrétien raised the question of Helms-Burton and Zaire, where his nephew Raymond, Canada's ambassador to Washington, is leading a UN mission to investigate the trial war that threatens to engulf central Africa. On Helms-Burton, according to Canadian officials, Clinton promised to study the issue again, but made no specific commitment.

**Jesse's back, but Ottawa mostly cheers the U.S. vote**



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## WORLD

A handful of other contests last week had special significance for Canada. No years would have been shed in Ottawa if Jesse Helms, the main sponsor of the Helms-Burton bill, had lost his bid for re-election in North Carolina. But the 75-year-old Republican warhorse will be back chasing the Senate's foreign relations committee. In South Dakota, Republican Senator Larry Pressler, a persistent critic of Canada over both cultural issues and agriculture, lost his bid for re-election. And in Alaska, Republican Senator Ted Stevens, who has clashed with Canadians over Pacific salmon fishing and oil drilling rights in a wildlife reserve that straddles Alaska and the Yukon, was re-elected and is now likely to become chairman of the Senate's powerful appropriations committee. "Stevens has been a pain in the neck to Canadians," notes Christopher Sands, director of the Canada project at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington. "He's a real Alaska-dweller."

Individual senators and congressmen, of course, make only a marginal difference in the vast and complex U.S.-Canada relationship. "It's a big mistake to think that individuals drive these positions," says Dennis "Nathaniel" McIntyre, a senior advisor to the Canadian government. "Just as important for Canadians and other non-Americans is the



Stevens is an 'unfriendly face' for Canada

fact that their interests can quickly get lost in the cross fire between competing domestic forces—which could well happen if Clinton's second term bogs down in the filth from Whitewater and other scandals. "The presidency would be hamstrung and Washington would be well-absorbed in the rubble," Sands says. "That could lower Cana-

da, and ever since, watching in horror as paralysis prevents the United States from acting in a way it would like it to act."

The interplay of domestic U.S. interests will certainly determine what happens with the Helms-Burton law, which seeks to punish foreign companies that use property confiscated by the Castro government after Cuba's 1959 Communist revolution. Canada and other close allies of Washington are upset because the law would, among other things, allow Americans to sue such foreign companies in American courts. Clinton signed the bill in March, but he suspended its harshest provisions until January. With his election out of the way, many analysts expect him to find a way to water down the law and do a deal with Canada, the European Union and others.

But it may not be easy. The anti-Castro lobby remains powerful in Congress, and the election of new senators like Tortorelli has given it more clout. If anything, say other observers, Congress may seek to strengthen Helms-Burton and take away the President's power to waive the parts of it that Canada finds most onerous. That means that, despite the pretensions of goodwill on both sides, Clinton's second term may indeed begin with new tensions between Washington and Ottawa.

ANTHONY PHILLIPS in Washington and  
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A smole of food  
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## WORLD ZAIRE

# Waiting in hunger

Refugee agencies warn of a looming disaster

**N**ot yet settled to know exactly why President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire suddenly up and left his cozy state in one of Lussemburg's best hotels last week. Nor was anyone sure why he cancelled three months of treatment for prostate cancer to fly unannounced to his villa on the French Riviera. It was true he had faced protesters in Senegal back after a week of allegations that he had plundered billions of dollars from the country he has ruled since 1965. But Mobutu's intentions remained inscrutable on the morning sunglasses were by his headgear. Canada's Raymond Charbonnet got at least one answer out of the president when he put him in a quick diplomatic call in Nice, France, last week as the United Nations' latest special envoy to central Africa. According to Charbonnet, Mobutu would welcome a multinational force that might restore order in northeastern Zaire, where an insurrection and a swell of refugees has created untold chaos. "I found him in good spirits but concerned with the problems of his country," Charbonnet said at times. A Zairese official added that Mobutu was likely to return home "within days."

To what is the question? Zaire is a passive country whose remote regions are often beyond the reach of law and order or even mail traffic. Government officials in Kinshasa, the capital, have a stranglehold over Zaire's rich provinces, some still rich in copper, cobalt or diamonds. Kinshasa itself was once lawless but calmed last week. Govern-

ment ministers went underground as youths tried to protect the town of Zaïre's sovereignty over the northeastern provinces near Lake Kivu, where Tutsi-led rebels have claimed control. Self-styled rebel leader Laurent Nkunda threatened to lead a nationwide uprising of the way to Kinshasa to overthrow Mobutu's cronies. Kinshasa has about 1,500 km to the west, with a dense rain forest and few roads between. To the loose coalition of rebel forces now running Kivu region, Kinshasa might as well be in France.

Kinshasa also could not trust the aid agencies to come back to care for refugees from the fighting. But that, too, was hollow. An estimated 1.2 million Hutus, who had been living in refugee camps when the fighting started, were fleeing westward, deeper into Zaire. But the Tutsi rebels refused to allow aid organizations to fly supplies into the main airport under their control in Gombe, far from suggestions that they wanted to force the Hutus even farther from the Rwandan border. A humanitarian disaster loomed, the aid agencies warned. "They will be fighting with the local peasants for food and firewood as they go and the local peasants will be killing them as returners," agreed Gerard Poirier, a Paris-based author and researcher who has spent years in the region. "It's a

nightmare and it's happening right now. It's just there's no CNN there to see it."

It is not surprising that the Tutsi rebels and their partners in Rwanda don't want the refugee camps reopened. The facilities were controlled by the Hutu militiamen responsible for the 1994 genocide of Rwanda's Tutsis, and the Hutus had continued to attack Tutsi villages in Rwanda, using the camps as a base. But the international community was in no hurry to send much more than diplomats to the region anyway. Although UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali threw his support behind a French proposal for a multinational military force, most countries—including the United States and Canada—seemed less than eager to commit troops. French Foreign Minister Hervé de Laetie

condemned the run of the world's "senseless" conflict, placing that when he asked other governments for help. "The answer was, 'could you come back tomorrow?' or 'we might look at it soon.'"

But many observers are suspicious of French motives in the region. "France will do whatever it can to protect its power and make protect the outposts of its language," says Poirier. "The humanitarian promise is empty. For them, it is important only that the refugees' last words of agony be in French." Critics of French policy argue that the country's ostensibly humanitarian 1994 Operation "Turquoise" during the Bosnian civil war seeded the current crisis, allowing Hutus who loathed genocide to escape justice. The price of all the international strategic posturing is now being paid by the thousands of men, women and children struggling to survive.

BRUCE WALLACE is in London with correspondents' reports.



## Exactly how many hints did you drop?

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# Out of a job, again

## Benazir Bhutto vows to fight her dismissal

**I**t was just like the old days, and she was playing the role for which she was born. Successful and defiant, Benazir Bhutto was looking out at enemies who had once again engineered the dismissal of her elected government. "In the history of the people of Pakistan that I have always been in the hands of self-styled messiahs,"

replied Bhutto at a news conference held under the glaring chandeliers of her hilltop prime ministerial mansion in Islamabad. Her hands shook as she vowed to fight her firing by President Farooq Leghari through the courts and on the hustings—provided the caretaker government sticks to its promise to hold elections on Feb. 3.

While her sister may have been constitutionally declared, it was not democratic in spirit. "Only the people can elect me, only the people can remove me," said Bhutto. "Whether it is good, bad or ugly, it is nobody's business."

Increasingly, however, many of her people have come to view the 35-year-old leader as politically ugly, thanks to the chaos and corruption that have engulfed the country in recent years. Her opponents rejoiced in the streets when the sackings of her second in six years—was announced, and the stock market shot up. It was a far cry from the hope she had breathed in 1986 when she became the Islamic world's first woman leader. As the daughter of populist prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, she inherited a legacy steeped in blood and glamor after he was hanged by the military regime in 1979 following a sham trial. Her legend was enhanced by her education at Harvard and Oxford, her flight to Britain in 1966, her return to numerous crowds in Pakistan in 1986 and the loyalty of dictator Zia ul-Haq, who briefly jailed her. It was his death in a mysterious plane crash in 1988

that at last opened the doors for democracy.

Prepared with the first of three children by husband Asif Ali Zardari—like her the son of a wealthy landowning family from the southern province of Sindh—she took on a punishing election campaign schedule and won. But her government lasted just 39 months before she was sacked amid accusations of corruption and financial mismanage-

ment. Leghari also accused her of plundering the state coffers and running up a deficit that was leading Pakistan to economic ruin. Pakistanis fiercely argue that Bhutto's dismissal, the fourth of a prime minister since 1988, could fatally weaken democracy. "Bad government is an unavoidable concomitant of democracy," says I. A. Rehman, director of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan and a veteran journalist and commentator. "But every time you seek an escape in authoritarianism, you only compound your problems."

However, members of the caretaker cabinet that was sworn in hours after Bhutto was fired say the country could not wait. "The issue was, could our economy, could our judicial system, could our education survive and Benazir's term expired in 1997," says Nadea Hussain, the new education minister and a former ambassador to Washington. Most observers agree that Bhutto's problems are of her own making. A fatal mix of personal arrogance and constitutional incompetence squandered the popularity that had twice brought her to power. "In her approach, she is quite feudal and she is full of herself," concedes Rehman. "She is guilty of not maintaining a rapport with the people, not caring about the public perception of corruption, and not handling discontent as rising prices."

Her husband Zardari became a major liability, so associated with government corruption that he became known as "Mr. 30 Per Cent." Last week, Zardari was being held at a police guesthouse outside Islamabad while authorities prepared charges.

Pakistan's future now rests in the hands of Miraj Khaliq, a veteran socialist and a founder of Bhutto's party. Loyal much of his cabinet—which includes two former World Bank officials—he is seen as politically unaligned. He bowed out of politics in 1993 and was rector of the International Islamic University in Islamabad before he was made caretaker prime minister. Khaliq has already set the tone for a new, more austere order. Bhutto's trip to his home city of Lahore last week, he observed a motorcade and the airport VIP lounge, and flew economy.

Leghari's six-page dismissal order read like an indictment of Bhutto's three years in office. He accused her of allowing police to run riot against a long-standing ethnic uprising in the commercial hub, Karachi. "The charges must have been all the more painful because Bhutto's last surviving brother, her political rival Miran, was shot dead by those same police outside his home on Sept. 1993."

Unfettered, Bhutto fought back and eventually triumphed in elections in 1993. By last week, however, even some of her best friends seemed to have deserted her. "The dismissal of the government appears to be in accordance with the Pakistani constitution," said the U.S. state department.

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SUZANNE GOLDENBERG in Islamabad



The sacked prime minister's caption

## The Bhutto saga

**1979** Benazir's father, ex-prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, executed by military leader Gen. Zia ul-Haq, who deposed him.

**1984** Benazir's first husband died in a plane crash.

**1985** Brother Shah Nawaz Bhutto found dead under mysterious circumstances in Cannes, France.

**1986** Benazir returns to Pakistan.

**1987** Benazir marries Asif Ali Zardari, a match arranged by her mother.

**1988** Zia dies in a still-unexplained plane crash in August. Benazir elected prime minister in November.

**1990** Benazir sacked as prime minister by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, a friend of Zia.

**1993** Benazir elected again as prime minister.

**1994** Sacked brother Miran Bhutto gunned down in Karachi on Sept. 20. Benazir sacked as prime minister by President Farooq Leghari on Nov. 5.



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## World NOTES

### TWA MISSILE CLAIM DENIED

U.S. government spokesmen angrily denied a renewed assertion that a navy missile accidentally shot down TWA Flight 800 off Long Island last July, killing 253 people on board. Pierre S. Jung, a Washington, D.C.-based consultant and former press secretary to President John F. Kennedy, initially claimed a U.S. intelligence agent gave him a document "proving" that the plane had been hit during U.S. navy missile tests in the area. But Suring, 74, later admitted to get the document from a French source and that it had long circulated on the Internet. FBI officials said they had already investigated and discounted the "brandy fine" theory for the still-unexplained crash.

### BLOODBATH IN ALGERIA

Authorities blamed Islamic extremist rebels for the massacres of 31 people, including 19 women, in the Algerian village of Sidi el Kebir. It was not clear why the attackers targeted the members of five ordinary families, slitting their throats and using saws to mutilate their bodies. Since 1992, 50,000 people have been killed in Algeria's fundamentalist rebellion.

### O.J. AND HARASSMENT

Former football star O.J. Simpson denied allegations that he had made sexual advances towards an 18-year-old court assistant during his current cell trial over the murders of his wife Nicole and a friend. Andrea McArthur, blond and blue-eyed like Nicole, told the newspaper USA Today that Simpson had invited her to his home for a Halloween party. Simpson told reporters he already had a date for the party.

### EXPLORING MARS

NASA launched an unmanned space-craft called Global Surveyor, opening a 19-year program to explore the planet Mars. After a 170-million-km trip that should take 10 months, the craft will send back images of Mars that will also be posted on the Internet. But only after the year 2005 will the planet be peered for evidence of life.

### CYCLONE IN INDIA

Up to 1,200 people were feared dead after a cyclone lashed villages on India's southwestern coast. An estimated 400,000 homes were destroyed and more than 100,000 people took refuge in relief camps.



Moscow Communists celebrate the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, 'on the edge of a precipice'

## A revived Yeltsin faces a crisis

Sadly, Russian President Boris Yeltsin seemed to have a new lease on life—and on his political office. Less than 24 hours after undergoing complicated open-heart bypass surgery, Yeltsin, 65, declared himself fit to resume governing. And while doctors at first attempted to hold him back, Yeltsin's quick progress convinced them to accelerate his recovery schedule. Leading Russian cardiologist Mikhail Delidker said Yeltsin could be back to full duties in the Kremlin within two to three weeks as a "vigorous leader." He must not eat fatty foods, said the 58-year-old consulting physician. But Yeltsin would be able to enjoy moderate drinking since there were no signs that alcohol abuse had plagued the president's behavior and liver as had been widely believed.

Yeltsin's first official act from his hospital room was to postpone the Nov 7 Bolshevik Day holiday, marking the 1917 Bolshevik seizure of

power, as the Day of National Accord and Reconciliation. "We are one nation," the Russian leader said. "We have one fate, one future. And we are all from the same past." Reconciliation will be a watchword of Yeltsin's second term, added a top aide. But in the streets of Moscow, such accord seemed far from the minds of Communist party supporters marking the holiday, and other Russians demonstrating over unpaid wages and pensions. Millions of government workers, from kinesthetists to soldiers have not been paid for months. Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov told a crowd of nostalgic revolutionaries that the nation is "on the edge of a precipice." Yeltsin's quick recovery added to the ball as emerging power struggle between his chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais, and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin. But the powers of all three men will be tested by the country's looming economic crisis.

### An army sex scandal

The U.S. army charged a captain and two sergeants with a well-known sex scandal involving complaints by 17 female recruits about their instructors. The three were charged at the Aberdeen Proving Ground military school near Baltimore. Prior counts included rape, sodomy, sexual harassment, deceiving orders and obstruction of justice. "This is the worst thing the ever come across," said Aberdeen commander Maj. Gen. Robert Stuebel, a veteran of three decades in the army, who expected more charges to emerge. The case already looked more serious than the notorious 1991 Tailhook scandal in

which male U.S. army red crosses pilots handed female soldiers over to a Las Vegas hotel. That scandal resulted in a massive sexual abuse investigation.

The army began investigating the Aberdeen case in September after one female recruit complained of being forced into sex. Another 16 military women complained only they were contacted by investigators, they said they did not come forward on their own to avoid damaging their careers. About 550 of the 1,000 women who have gone through the school in recent months have been questioned. "It just breaks your heart when you see something like this happen, when people abuse their power," Stuebel said. "We need leaders, not leaders."



Air Canada jet at Montreal's Saint-Pierre Airport—a younger fleet

## Business

# Unfriendly skies

The contract could hardly be more glaring. In Calgary, the country's No. 2 air carrier, Canadian Airlines International Ltd., appears stuck on a tight path to oblivion, weighed down by a seven-year record of annual losses. With the company's cash reserves dwindling rapidly, the airline's executives were reduced to pleading last week for more favorable terms on a \$120-million rescue package put together two years ago by the federal government, Alberta and British Columbia. Two thousand kilometres east, meanwhile, Air Canada lessors were taking a 30-percent jump in that company's stock price to the white of record third-quarter earnings. After a long and costly battle between the two carriers for air supremacy, a growing number of executives are betting that Air Canada will soon emerge as the sole survivor.

The prospect of victory undoubtedly tastes sweet for Canada's largest airline. Helga Harris, Air Canada's chief executive officer until last spring, said repeatedly during his four-year reign that with archrival Canadian that the country only had room for one international carrier. As Canadian spurs out of control, that scenario seems closer than ever. "Not that Air Canada is gliding," Iva de la Cruz, a former diplomat, said last week. "The situation is evolving rapidly," said John Birt, an Air Canada spokesman. That was an understatement. On Friday, Canadian Airlines issued

## The fight for supremacy in the air

a terse ultimatum to its workers—give up 30 per cent of their wages by Nov. 30 or start looking for new jobs. Declared spokeswoman Daria Ward "if all employees, including the unions, do not accept this, then the next step is an orderly and dignified shutdown of the airline." Although Canadian officials expressed confidence that workers would approve the restructuring, the airline's strategy is fraught with risk. In fact, the threat of a shutdown could prove self-defeating if large numbers of customers cancel flight reservations to avoid being stranded during the busy Christmas period. Take Canadian, Air Canada's no. 2 in the West. Fully privatized in 1986, the airline lost money for four straight years, reporting its biggest loss in 1987: \$454 million (a recovery of \$3.5 billion, though, the latest seems brighter). On Oct. 30, president and CEO Lorne Durand, a Harris protégé, announced that the company had earned \$149 million on revenues of \$1.39 billion in the three months ending on Sept. 30.

From the office overlooking the runway at Dorval Airport in Montreal, Paul Harris traces the airline's turnaround to 1985 and the bold decision to buy new aircraft after losing \$1 billion over three years. "At the time, very other airline in the world was canceling orders," recalls Harris, Air Canada's vice-president of finance. The company took advantage of the situation to negotiate deep discounts and cheap loans to finance 24 new Canadian regional jets and 35 Airbus

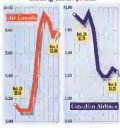
A-319s. Those purchases, says Birt, gave Air Canada one of the industry's "youngest and most efficient" fleets.

But newer aircraft are only part of the picture. Air Canada also launched an aggressive marketing campaign in Canada, targeting the profit-rich business market. In the past year alone, revenue from flights between Canada and the United States has soared 38 per cent. Capitalizing on the so-called open-skies agreement signed by Ottawa and Washington last year, the airline has added 34 new routes in the past 38 months, linking cities in Canada and the United States not previously served by nonstop service. Starting on Nov. 18, for example, the carrier will fly between Toronto and Raleigh, N.C. All but three of those routes are profitable.

"Canadian would rather fly a Canadian carrier than a U.S. carrier," says Birt. Darrell, a native of Georgia, says the United States is "a huge growth market for Air Canada, and we're going to continue with expansion there." The strategy was laid out in 1987 by Ted Larkin, an analyst with Bancroft Waring in Toronto. "They're doing it with the right type of aircraft, too," Larkin adds. With the 30-passenger Canadian regional jet, if you carry 35 passengers, roughly speaking, you're breaking even. "By contrast, Canadian Airlines uses the larger Boeing 737 on many of its short-haul flights."

As Canada has also moved its jet fleet by trading on the futures market, a practice known as hedging. So far this year, says Birt, that has saved the company more than \$20 million. Still, he acknowledges the strategy is gamble. During the 1991 Gulf War, he says, "we guessed the wrong way" buying oil futures as prices approached \$40 a barrel, only to see the price drop after Iraq's defeat. Five years ago, Air Canada risked against the higher-cost commodity North America, Birt says. Today, the airline says it is using the bottom third in unit costs. One example of cost control is a \$60

## INVESTORS PLACE THEIR BETS



Despite the airline's recent success, Durand is careful not to suggest that Air Canada is on the verge of challenging its domestic rival. "When we look at the political situation right now," he told *McGraw-Hill* in September, "in my opinion the mood is simply not there to take a large company with thousands of employees and new it disappear." He added, however, that "in some point this country will have to face up to the fact that we need an international airline."

Certainly the view among analysts is that Air Canada is headed in the right direction. Jacques Kowalik of Research Capital Corp. in Toronto, for one, says the company is an "excellent" shape financially and is likely to post improved results in 1991. The strong trans-border market, and Canadian's recent decision to end service to Germany and France, also bode well for the Montreal-based carrier. On the downside, Air Canada faces a fit domestic market and a potential labor dispute involving 3,500 union and service agents, who may soon be in a legal strike position. But those problems are nothing compared with the crisis afflicting Air Canada's chief competitor.

BRISNDA BRANFILL, in Montreal

## DESPERATE MEASURES

The plane kept getting darker for Canadian Airlines International Ltd., which has piled up \$1.4 billion in losses since 1991 and could soon be running short of cash. According to the company, continuing operating losses threaten the viability of the Western-based airline.

Last week, Canadian's ten biggest airlines brushed off demands for wage cuts, calling instead for some measure of government assistance. But Ottawa appeared reluctant to play the white knight.

Canadian itself has asked for a government bailout. Cited Kevin Benson last week in a detailed restructuring plan, including a 10-per-cent wage cut that



Kevin Benson

would save an estimated \$70 million a year. Many workers, however, say they have already contributed enough in recent years by giving up a portion of their salaries to avert \$200 million in the corporation and agreeing to productivity concessions designed to save \$13 million in 1991. "We frankly are not prepared to ask our members to do more," he said.

On one side, he said, is Neville Hamilton, a spokesman for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

The opposition to roll backs was not unanimous. The pilots' union, for one, was recommending that its members support the restructuring plan. "When it comes right down to it," said Michael Lynch of the Canadian Airline Pilots Association, "90

per cent is better than no per cent."

In addition to pay cuts and flight-schedule changes that would see a reduction in domestic capacity and an increase in flights to the United States and Asia, the company is asking American Airlines' parent, AMR Corp.—which bought a 25-per-cent voting interest in Canadian two years ago—to reduce the fees it charges the airline for management of computer systems and other services.

Canadian Auto Workers president Buzz Hargrave, meanwhile, said that his union, which represents 3,700 Canadian employees, may be willing to accept a change in federal rules on foreign investment so that AMR can increase its stake in Canadian Airlines—so long as that is part of a broader solution. It is not at all clear, however, that AMR itself knows that option.

HARRY NEWMITH in Calgary



Hirsch at Fidelity's Toronto offices in August; her former employer felt burned

Commissioner Hirsch. Earlier this fall, reporter Brent Mundy was preparing a story on Oliver Gold Corp., an exploration company on the lookout for gold in Mali and Zimbabwe. In a bit of private glee, Hirsch's cheap-stock notes that she charmed out month after month to keep junior speculators going, he happened upon Veronika Hirsch's name. At any other time, that may not have meant much. Except that Hirsch had just jumped to Fidelity from AGF Management Ltd., which had spent millions buying Hirsch, a stellar fund manager, into a TV star. AGF felt burned. Hirsch's looking was big news.

Mundy phoned AGF chairman Warren Goldring. Was he aware of the investment, asked Mundy. Goldring said he was not. Hirsch, who is believed to have made roughly \$200,000 on her Oliver Gold investment, had not followed the internal reporting procedures required by AGF's code of ethics. The fact that the purchase was made by way of a private placement, said Goldring in the Dec. 4 issue of *Stockwatch*, "renders of some sort of information not used for the client." Mundy posed a hypothetical question: what would Goldring have done had Hirsch still been in the employ of AGF? Said Goldring: "It would be the dismissal of Veronika."

And, apparently, it was. But why? What is known is that in February, Hirsch, then at AGF, subscribed to \$5,000 special warrants in Oliver Gold. A decade ago, junior mining companies such as Oliver Gold rarely drew attention in the corridors of the "senior" brokerages and fund houses on Bay Street. Only when they hit the big silver field did the East take notice. That storied stock markets and the discovery of diamonds in the Northwest Territories (Dea Met), nickel in Labrador (Diamond Fields Resources) and gold in Indonesia (Bris-X) have scored huge wins for "small-cap" investors. So suddenly, heavy-weight mutual funds became small-cap investors, too.

And that was Hirsch's strength. She had a bit of tech for the explosive potential of these high-risk plays, and that made her a hit with investors. But when she invested in Oliver Gold, she did not invest on behalf of her fund but rather for herself. Nor did she

are. We're communicating through our lawyers." Last Friday, Hirsch met with securities lawyer Tom Lockwood, whom she retained early last week. Lockwood would only say that discussions "with Fidelity in-house counsel are ongoing." To describe these discussions as securities talks would not, says someone close to the story, be "to understate."

## ESSAY

The Gabor sisters had marriages but longer than the one between Hirsch and the megastar; they anticipate how could her love affair with Fidelity—and her career, for that matter—come just two months after it began?

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## BUSINESS

# A flare-up at Fidelity

Why the fund company dumped Veronika Hirsch

By JENNIFER WELLS

It is late at night and Veronika Hirsch is back home in Toronto's west end. This is not where Hirsch was supposed to be. She was scheduled to get to 22 cities, popping champagne corks for the True North fund, the one that Boston-based Fidelity Investments created just for her. This was to be Veronika Hirsch's finest hour. Instead, it has been Veronika Hirsch's very last month. Last week, Fidelity axed Hirsch from True North and issued a statement saying her future was "under discussion." The company went so far as to tell her family in True North investors who did not want to stay in now that Hirsch was out. Says Hirsch of Fidelity: "I honestly don't know what their intentions

## FALL OF A STAR

JAN., 1986

One of Canada's largest mutual fund companies, AGF Management Ltd., launches a \$1-billion fund company, purchasing Veronika Hirsch as manager of its AGF Growth and Income Fund.

AUG. 13

Taking advantage of Hirsch's excellent track record, Fidelity Investments Canada Ltd. hires her to manage its new Fidelity True North Fund.

OCT. 4

A Vancouver-based investment newsletter reports that in February, Hirsch personally purchased \$5,000 special warrants in Oliver Gold Corp., an exploration company, at \$1.50 each. Six weeks later in late March,

Hirsch started purchasing shares in Oliver Gold on behalf of her AGF clients. Later, her fund house made special warrants at \$5.00 each.

OCT. 11

The same newsletter reports that Hirsch, who lives in Toronto, and a close Vancouver

friend purchased the Oliver Gold warrants. Only B.C. residents and offshore residents were eligible for the investment.

NOV. 1

Audit proving routine review, Fidelity purchases a minority stake in Oliver Gold.

NOV. 6

Fidelity announces that it has removed Hirsch as manager of the True North fund, replacing her sister with the firm's "independent director."

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## BUSINESS.

tell AGF. The company's code of ethics states that all personal trading must be reported to the company's chief auditor within 10 days of the end of each month. Hirsch told Muddy that she was too preoccupied to notice the overnight. The purchase was not easily secret. Hirsch's sister appears in a year-chaser on a March 29 Vancouver Stock Exchange notice.

Had Hirsch simply bought shares, the story might have ended there. But a private placement of special warrants is far trickier. Placements in junior mining companies get talked up among the small circle of brokers who sell them, and the small circle of institutional investors who buy them. Deep-pocketed private investors buy in, too. But when the private investor and the institutional investor are one and the same, the spectre of conflict of interest arises. Bob Parquharson, vice-chairman of AGF, says there are no-house rules for investing in junior public stock offerings and private placements. IPOs, he says, are prohibited. Private placements are not off-limits, but any personal purchase requires prior clearance.

AGF's code, however, does not spell out that it forbids it. It outlines the broad "principle," as Parquharson calls it, that portfolio managers must agree ahead of time. That in no way, he argues, indicates any internal controls. "I take issue with the impression that we don't have tight standards," says Parquharson.

He says a lot of a lot of it is professional standards. "Chris Cowles, who runs roughly \$2 billion in fund money for AGF, says he always felt the company's rules were understood. "We all know what the rules are so what you do and what you don't do with the public money," he says. Hirsch did not say whether her understanding of private placements investing gives with Parquharson's.

The core principle of ethical investing is that the manager not use his or her position for personal benefit. "Chris Cowles, who runs roughly \$2 billion in fund money for AGF, says he always felt the company's rules were understood. "We all know what the rules are so what you do and what you don't do with the public money," he says. Hirsch did not say whether her understanding of private placements investing gives with Parquharson's.

In April, Hirsch bought into a third private placement, this time on behalf of the fund. Again the placement was special warrants. In this round, the price was \$2.80. And she continued buying on the open market for the fund, too, paying a high of \$5 in May.

It is not known where Hirsch sold her own shares or at what price. She told Muddy that she sold in the interim period as she hopped from AGF to Fidelity, and that she sold at \$4, which is where the \$250,000 profit figure comes from. But Oliver Gold did not trade at \$4 when Hirsch was between jobs.

On Dec. 1, Fidelity spokesman Christian Lohmann said that, among the dozen or so company's new hire. In an internal memo, Lohmann said it was clear that Hirsch acted in a legal, ethical and proper fashion with regard to these transactions. He has, he says, "never seen" AGF's code of ethics. "That's a good question," he says, when asked how he could make the matter clear. Hirsch's ethics in such a situation, Lohmann says, is not off-limits, but any personal purchase requires prior clearance.

Fidelity's own code of ethics states that managers can invest in private placements only after special review. Lohmann earlier said that Fidelity was confident that it had all the "facts" from Hirsch. One fact Fidelity did not have was that, in making her purchase, Hirsch used the address of a Vancouver broker in order to skirt securities restrictions on the warrants, which were to be sold only to U.S. and offshore investors. And Lohmann now will not address the matter. Hirsch sold her Oliver Gold shares before she got there. Even if she did, the agency did not look bad. "All we have is our integrity," says AGF's Cowles. If investors question that, "then people aren't going to leave money with you and there goes the business."

It is time up to securities regulators to determine exactly when Hirsch did what and whose benefit. At Fidelity, Lohmann hopes that being "one of the largest private investment firms on the planet" will help investors forget the Hirsch affair. At AGF, the company's corporate governance committee is preparing to meet later this month to review their corporate code of ethics. Parquharson says he disagrees with the idea of a full ban on personal trading, a move that Alkermes Management Ltd. made last September. "Is that appropriate? Is that right? Is that just?" he asks. Still, it's not a bad bet that the code revisions will clearly state prohibitions on IPOs and light restrictions on private placements. As for Hirsch, her lawyer's job, on balance, is challenging. "I wish I could talk to you, but I can't," she says. So far the tale of the private sale of Hirsch has been running only one thing: the star herself. □

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## BUSINESS

# The urge to merge

Rivals weigh the impact of the BT-MCI marriage

Executives at BCE Inc. in Montreal thought that they had the future pretty well figured out. Last December BCE and its partners in Canada's telephone business forged a strategic alliance with Concert, a global communication venture backed by British Telecom PLC and MCI Communications Corp. of Washington. Covering its bases, BCE also merged its British operations last month with those of BT's arch-rival, Cable & Wireless PLC. But



Bell technician: tremendous pressures

and some analysts believe it is only a matter of time before companies such as AT&T and Sprint are allowed to buy out their Canadian partners. "There is no question," says Les Angus, president of Angus Telecommunications

Group in Toronto, "that Sprint Canada and Call Net are part of Sprint's global strategy."

The future of BCE, which dominates the Canadian telephone market, is harder to predict. With \$28.6 billion in annual revenues, BCE is the world's 11th-largest telephone company. If it moves quickly, it could increase its global presence by taking over rivals and expanding into other markets. Another option would be for BCE to sell its 14.2-percent stake in Cable & Wireless while seeking a closer relationship with Concert, the company created through the merger of BT and MCI. Whatever strategy they follow, BCE and its partners in the Starter alliance of Canadian phone companies accept that change is coming. "An enormous challenge," says Walter Blacklock, vice-president of international marketing for Starter, "there are tremendous pressures to co-operate and collaborate."

Ottawa is now wrestling with the question of how quickly those changes should unfold. Michael Bander, assistant deputy minister of Industry Canada, told Meriton that the BT-MCI deal has increased the pressure on all governments to deregulate their telecommunications industries. "The British have taken a leap of faith that the market is open," said Bander. BCE and a host of other phone companies will now be scrambling to catch up.

TOM FENNEL

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## The Bottom Line

### A question of country

Canadians should have twigged that J. P. Bryne wasn't here to stay. The chief executive officer of Gulf Canada moved north to Calgary from Texas in early 1985, but Mrs. Bryne didn't come along. Sure enough, 18 months later, Bryne is preparing to head south in Denver. Something similar happened when another American, Hollis Harris, took the top job at Montreal-based Air Canada in 1982. He continued to commute to the office from his home in Atlanta. And now he's gone, too.

The news that Bryne is leaving town—taking about 35 of Gulf's top managers with him—was closely linked to the bottom of

competition and borderless commerce. Money and deals will flow wherever conditions are most favorable.

In his 1985 book, *The End of the Nation State*, business guru Kenneth Orlitzky argued that the very notion of sovereignty has become obsolete, and that business will inevitably recognize and show the most efficient flows. With the advent of global capital markets, free trade and information technology he declared, there's no longer any reason to accommodate arbitrary national boundaries.

Certainly there are Canadian companies other than Gulf Canada that direct most of their operations from outside Canada. Although the Brechtans hardly maintain an

**Gulf Canada's decision to move its head office to Denver reflects the reality of global markets**

it has been managed out of New York City for decades.

Then, there is the Movement Designers of Montreal. Last month, the financial services giant announced plans to transfer its \$2-billion equity portfolio, Cambridge Inc., out of the province. Designers had just hired a four-person team of money managers away from Massachusetts Life Insurance Co. in Toronto. Rather than relocate them, it seemed sensible just to shift the funds. Wrong again. The outcry was overwhelming.

In theory, it's not supposed to matter any more where a company shuffles its papers, or whether a CEO is a citizen of that country. But in practice it matters a great deal—especially in a country with a proud plant history. For Canada is an international company with strategic alliances around the globe. Yet one thing that Canadians have focused on is the nationality of senior CEO Hollis Harris and his successor, fellow Georgian Lamar Durrett.

From a theoretical standpoint, Bryne is probably right about moving Gulf's Denver and positioning the company to succeed internationally. His principal responsibility as CEO is to optimize future returns to shareholders. But while money may have no country, people do. And it's people—and their pride in where they live and where they work—that make or break a business.

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## Business NOTES

### THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

In a bid to get Canada's struggling direct-broadcast TV industry off the ground, Industry Canada leveled out companies to bid for the right to launch their own satellites. Although Ottawa has licensed three such companies, none is yet operating and an estimated 200,000 Canadians have already turned to U.S. companies for service.

### GLOOMY DAY AT THE SUN

Sun Media Corp. dismissed 100 of its 3,600 staff at four newspapers across the country, less than a month after a management-led \$491-million buyout from Rogers Communications Inc. At The Toronto Star, 64 employees lost their jobs, including some with more than 20 years of experience. The *Rimont Post* shed 13 jobs.

### LOWEN DIPS UP PROFITS

A two-month battle for quarterly supremacy has done nothing to quantify the life out of Lowen Group Inc. The Burnaby, B.C., company reported record revenues of \$201 million in the third quarter of 1996, up \$75 million over the same period last year. Lowen, North America's second-largest funeral-service chain, has been battling a hostile takeover bid by rival Service Corp. International of Houston.

### TRAVEL BUSINESS PROBED

Toronto-based Thomson Corp. and several other travel companies are being investigated by the Irish government over alleged unfair practices. Thomson owns Britain's largest leisure-travel company. The inquiry will focus on links between leading tour operators and travel agencies.

### NEIWANA DEAL NIXED

Management discarded at Neivana Ltd. appears to have killed a \$15-million takeover by Golden Books Family Entertainment Inc. of New York City. Neivana is Canada's largest animation house, producing such cartoon series as *Rabbit and Rabbit*.

### 'A NOXIOUS CANT'

Bowing to complaints from academic parents, Oxford University has thrown out plans for a major new business school. One Oxford don called management studies "a phoney academic subject, a shallow contemporary shibboleth promoting a noxious cant."

## Ottawa moves to bolster growth

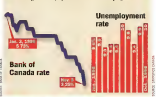
The Bank of Canada seeks to new depths as it had to boost consumer confidence and create more jobs. Hours after Statistics Canada announced that the unemployment rate in October had reached up to 10 per cent from 9.9 per cent in September, the central bank dipped its key rate to 3.25 per cent. It was the 11th cut this year. Major banks followed with slashing their prime rates to 4.75 per cent.

Finance Minister Paul Martin insisted that the rise in unemployment pointed to a stronger sense of hope in the land. "That's the kind of anxiety we're going to be living with," he said. "I think the unemployment rate will come down more slowly because as people gain more confidence, they're going to want to come back into the workforce."

Jobless numbers aside, there were several signs of growing economic strength. Vehicle sales in October for all manufacturers except Ford—whose figures were unavailable because of a computer breakdown—rose 19 per cent to \$1,985, a better sign than since the 1980s. Meanwhile, corporate profits in the third quarter rose seven per cent from 1995. And the value of building permits in the July-to-September period increased 1.1 per cent from the previous quarter, to \$3.9 billion. Bayview LePage Ltd. says that sales of existing houses will climb 3.6 per cent in 1997, with prices rising 1.4 per cent.

### UPS AND DOWNS

The Bank of Canada has been cutting interest rates to boost the economy, but unemployment remains stubbornly high.



## NEIWANA Settles Scandal at Texaco

Ottawa-based Neivana Ltd. has agreed to settle a lawsuit filed by Texaco customers in the United States who were suing to cut up four credit cards over the disclosure of false earnings that inflated four company offices in Mexico, most notably, when disclosing a one-million-dollar lawsuit. Trying to control the damage, the Wm. Plunk, N.Y.-based company suspended two of the four employees, with pay, and reduced the salaries of the two others. "This has been a blow in the pub," company chairman Peter Bear said in a news conference.

Richard Lundvall, a former senior personnel officer, proudly recalled the fight in 1994. He made them public after losing his job in August in a company restructuring. Texaco responded by stripping Lundvall of his severance pay. Two of the managers caught on the tapes refused to shake up "black ally" brand and "green" Texaco has long been accused for failing to implement strong racial-diversity policies.

## Friedland off the hook

Michigan promoter Robert Friedland is free at last to collect \$22.1 million in assets that the U.S. government had sought to cover cleanup costs at a Colorado mine. An Ontario Court judge lifted a freeze on a third of the loan stack that Friedland collected when he sold his stake in the mammoth Vioy's Bay mineral discovery in Labrador. Justice Robert Sharpe accused U.S. officials of distorting the facts and making outlandish "misstatements."

The U.S. justice department said it would not seek to stay Sharpe's judgment, although it has the right to appeal before Dec. 5. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is using Friedland for \$22 million (U.S.) to cover the cost of cleaning up a waste spill in the 1980s at the Summitville mine, present in Colorado. The mine's owner, Vancouver-based Galactic Resources, was controlled by Friedland until his resignation in 1990.



Friedland indicated



# Peter C. Newman

## Double Vision: the best political romp

**T**his fall is turning out to be a vintage book season and some of the best nonfiction entries include these picks from the letter:

**Double Vision: The Inside Story of the Liberals in Power**, by Anthony Wilson-Smith and Edward Greenstein (Doubleday \$34.95) Every once in a while a book captures the essence of politics in such compelling detail that it cries out to be read. *Double Vision* is such a volume. Both Wilson-Smith, who is *Maclean's* Ottawa editor, and Greenstein, *The Globe and Mail's* Ottawa-based chief U.S. columnist on the overseas challenge of trying to make the Canadian government interesting—and cover up voters.

Jean Chrétien emerges as a surprisingly impressive and bravely decisive leader who has substituted action for nation. On June 12, 1994, for example, while presiding over a tense cabinet meeting, the Prime Minister demanded to know who had leaked news of secret meetings to drastically reduce ministerial budgets. When no one volunteered, Chrétien warned: "I can't tell you what's going on, then I'll pick the names of two ministers out of a hat and fire them. I want everyone to understand I'm serious. I will not tolerate this." The threat was never carried out, but the legend book stopped.

The aptly named sequel of the Prime Minister is the description of his first New Year's Eve at 24 Sussex Drive. A little after midnight, as a spirit of spontaneous exuberance, the PM danced into the snowdrifts rewording his official residence and happily started popping over, making as much of the scene. The intimate tale of Chrétien, who seems destined to lead us into the next century, is a devastating portrait of his reaction to last year's referendum. Here, too, is an such subject music that he broke down in front of his own caucus, and has yet to devise solutions that would disarm the Quebec separatist aspirations.

The book's hero is Paul Martin, whose leadership campaign campaigner referred to Chrétien as "Potato Head." The finance minister is effectively profiled as the only liberal minister capable of shaping events, instead of merely reacting to them. *Double Vision's* message is that unless the Liberals at Ottawa get their act together, Jean Chrétien may well end up as the only Prime Minister without a country.

**I Have Lived Here Since the World Began**, by Arthur Ray (General Publishing \$45) The plight of our native peoples has seldom troubled the Canadian conscience. Their early presence was treated as an amorphous, slightly out-of-focus reality that he removed from the backdrop of local population and current life. But now their photos of Canadian history have found their voice at last. In this beautifully illustrated and brilliantly conceived volume, University of British Columbia historian Arthur Ray has drawn mag-

nificent portrait of Canada's native peoples. Incredible as it seems, by tapping the oral histories of local elders he has managed to reconstruct an evocative tale of 12,000 years of history. The most interesting part of his chronicle is breaking down the stereotype of "Indians" into as many distinct nations. These were the First Nations that shaped our past and must be taken into account in the moulding of our future.

**Impossible Nation: The Longing for Homeland in Canada and Quebec**, by Ray Conlogue (General Publishing \$34.95) Conlogue, who is the Montreal arts correspondent for *The Globe and Mail*, has written an essay in book form that demands to be understood. Instead of the roots that usually characterize the Quebec independence issue, the author sets out the surprising notion that we have failed to build a bilingual country because we insist that the Quebecers live as far what we do for them, not realizing that this precisely why they hate us. "The only useful relationship between the two peoples," he writes "would seem to be a contractual one, based on mutual need and benefit." To achieve such an arrangement will take not only battles of goodwill but emotional commitment to both homelands within some reformist format. English-Canadian critics greet his Quebecers the required respect and they learn to love themselves. And unless we achieve that state of grace very quickly this could be the last line along with this country eventually divides.

**Canada Inside Out: How We See Ourselves/How Others See Us**, by David Olve (Clarkson \$22.95) Starting out with the Marshall McLuhan dictum that Canadians are "maddened with caution," journalist Olve has gathered some lovely thoughts about Canada's ambivalent sense of identity. "The question," he writes, "is not whether we are the equal of our dreams, but whether we have the courage to let them lock us to us." This fine collection of Canadian essays aptly begins with Jean-François's story collection. "When I'm in Canada, I feel that is what the world should be like."

**Significant Incidents: Canada's Army, the Airborne, and the Murder in Somalia**, by David Berenson (McClelland & Stewart, \$89.99) What the author, a military historian, rightly calls "The deepest crisis of confidence in the history of the Canadian Armed Forces," was triggered by the bloody Somalia affair, but its roots run much deeper. The "death from the skies" bandwagons that turned the once valiant Airborne Regiment into a killing machine at Beirut, then, were only the worst symptom of what Berenson describes as "the debilitated bureaucracy of the high command by governments determined to have a servile elite corps." The balance of data intelligent and reputation book reflects on the author's thesis that "Canada's soldiers are not killing their enemy or their nation, their nation and their army are killing them."

# People

Edited by  
BARBARA WICKENS

## The write stuff

Novelist **Cordelia Strube** started writing her latest novel, *Reaching Papa to Sing*, when she was also trying to determine whether she had the right material stuff to be a mother. Her conclusion was clearly in the affirmative. During the same week in September that the book was published, Strube gave birth to a daughter, **Carson**. The critically acclaimed *Reaching Papa to Sing* is



Strube daughters and daughters

About a mother who tries to nurture and protect her young son in a world of a false decay. "Writing this book made me face the reality that it will be impossible to protect my daughter from most of the dangers of life," says the Toronto-based author. "Just having the baby for a few weeks makes me realize how hard it is." Strube, 36, started writing a fourth novel during the pregnancy, but she is taking a break, she says, "until Carson has a sleeping pattern—and I have a sleeping pattern."

## She's having his baby

**P**ity poor Michael Jackson. Most announcements of an impending arrival are greeted with headshaking congratulations for the parents-to-be. But the announcement last week that the pop superstar will be a father early in the new year was



Prince Philip with award recipients

## A prince of an enterprise

Terrific on such thing as a casual encounter with British royalty, certainly not for the media. When **Prince Philip** visited Canada for two days last week, the 15 minutes slated into his hectic schedule for interviews with four print journalists were tightly orchestrated. The interview went to stay on tape—the launch of the Charter for Business, an expansion of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award program. The interview will end immediately upon references to other subjects," warned the organizers. So much for an opportunity to ask the prince what he thinks of his end-of-the-

line, Sarah Ferguson, and Diana, the Princess of Wales. But within those confines, the prince was royally congenial. Although more than 150,000 Canadians aged 14 to 25 have taken part in the program since it was established in 1963, the prince acknowledged that it has not attracted youth in difficult circumstances. To address that problem, the prince, in partnership with Canadian business, is launching the charter in target educational, rural and inner-city youth, young children and those with disabilities. He added, "They are probably the people who would most benefit."



## Neil Young day on the tube

Nerve gets hungry. Neil Young usually shows in interviews and the glare of TV cameras. So when the veteran rock star agreed to make an appearance on *MuchMusic* during a break from his cross-Canada tour with his band, **Crazy Horse**, the nation's music station made the most of it, devoting all of Nov. 3 programming to "Neil TV." Young defied convention from fans on television, his e-mail and a studio audience, while playing with an electronic electric train set. A well-conditioned "train need," he is past owner of the Laurel Train company. Only once, when he was asked about his favorite author, did Young appear stumped—until an audience member shouted, "Your dad," referring to sportswriter **Scott Young**. "Good name," grinned the famous son. "It was going to say that—[just needed some prompting]."

**Young: a rare break with the entertainment media**

greeted with skepticism, even derision. The expectant mother is **Debbie Rowe**, 31, a divorced nurse who has been a friend for 15 years, according to Jackson spokesman **Christian Holmes**. But as a mother and Holmes released a statement about the pregnancy that she had to start losing details. No, there were no test tubes involved.

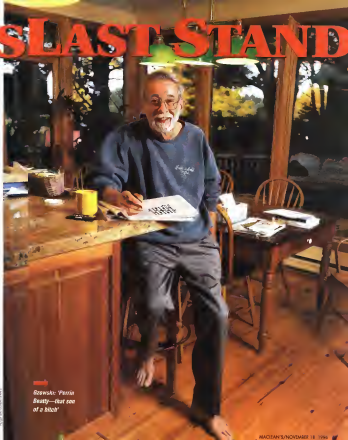
No, there is not being paid \$200,000 to have the child. No, the publicist had no comment about the couple's sexual relationship. And Jackson, 38, whose currently on tour in Asia, is only considering his new release. "I am afraid that it will soon be a father and on looking forward with great anticipation to having this child."

# GZOWSKI'S LAST STAND

COVER

Furious at the CBC brass, the host of *Morningside* is seriously reconsidering his decision to go

BY DAVID MACFARLANE



"That's not a question," says Peter Gzowski. And when it comes to questions, Peter Gzowski ought to know. Not many people have asked quite so many.

One wet, grey Saturday morning, the host of CBC Radio's *Morningside* is leaning over the kitchen counter of his home north of Toronto, near Lake Simcoe. His feet are bare. He is wearing a green sweatshirt from Foggy Island, Nfld., and parts of an appreciable midich. This gymnasium-like ensemble would give the impression that he just got out of bed, weren't it? For the fact that Peter Gzowski—with his dishevelled grey hair and cowboy beard—almost always looks like he just got out of bed.

His voice has been described a hundred ways: warm, honey-dipped, snake-roughened, friendly, rumpled, untamed. It is as familiar in its unswerving hesitations and as Canadian in its unfashionably courteous curiosity as an old hand-knit sweater. But on this rainy Saturday morning it is muffled by the same trace of indigestion that attends his famously haughty expression and the oddly modest, oddly esoteric shyness with which he passes through the corridors of the Canadian Broadcasting Centre in downtown Toronto.

At the nearby dining table, Gillian Howard, his companion of 15 years, is reading the newspaper. Timothy Findley's new book, *How West Was One*, is open in front of Gzowski. The coffee is there. So are the *Botanica Lignea*—a presence that angers him as much as it annoys his family and friends. Gzowski, at 62, is still living in the shadow of the acute embolism that stopped him in his lumbering tracks for 12 weeks of recovery from vascular surgery last winter.

The interview—which Gzowski is tolerating with the patient grace of an experienced doctor undergoing a medical examination—is heading towards awkward terrain. It is the "you realize that for many people you represent Canada" line. And he makes it clear that he does not care for it. Whatever other people may say about what he stands for—and almost all conversations about Gzowski these days revolve quickly towards what he and *Morningside* symbolize—his own self-assessment is a little more down to earth. He is a journalist. He

is a broadcaster. He is a writer. He is a professional—"the hardest-working person I know," says his assistant, Shelley Aronson. If he is a national institution, if he is a Canadian icon, if he is a symbol of unity—that is not his concern. He is—has once said to his friend, the host of Sunday *Morningside*—someone who simply knows how to "think fast and speak slowly."

Gzowski often seems uncomfortable under the freight with which *Morningside* is burdened by its most ardent fans. One sometimes gets the impression that he inclines towards the view of one of its sharpest critics, author Geoff Pevere. In *Monks Gzowski: A Canadian Pop Culture Odyssey*, Pevere writes, "If *Morningside*, which is listened to by less than 15 per cent of the entire nation each day, is all the glue we've got, we might as well be trying to bind the Titanic with Band-Aid."

Fifteen per cent of the Canadian population every day is, as dismissals go, not very discouraging. In fact, according to the program's executive producer, Gloria Bishop, *Morningside* reaches one and a half million listeners a week. (In comparison, *Rainy Mountain* has an audience of 652,000 in the new "test" slot on Vancouver's CKNW, the *Charles Adler Show* draws 460,000 on Toronto's CFMT.)

Still, Gzowski would probably not argue very strenuously with Pevere. Under normal circumstances, Gzowski would never claim that *Morningside* is the glue. He would say, perhaps, that its three hours of casually broadcast interviews, panel discussions, music and drama every weekday morning (with a one-hour repeat of highlights every evening), manage to show Canadians something of the place that is slowly there.

But these are not normal circumstances. Gzowski describes the 28-per-cent cut to CBC Radio's programming budget he announced two months ago by CBC president Perrin Beatty as "heart-wrenching." *Morningside* is receiving an average of 50 letters a day from listeners who are concerned about the severity of cuts to the CBC. \$127 million from a budget of \$1.4 billion and 2,500 jobs by April, 1990 and by the reports that this is Gzowski's last year on the show. And in this uncertain environment, Gzowski can also see—almost—be drawn into the kind of discussion that he prefers to avoid. "This might be a time for renewal and rebirth," he says. "It

Gzowski: 'Perrin Beatty—that son of a bitch'

PHOTO BY JEFFREY MAYER



**Gzowski** celebrates his honorary doctorate from the University of Toronto in 1994 with (from left) son Nick, Liz, Peter, daughter Maria and Alison, son Peter, companion Howard, and a man who cherishes his privacy

## Atwood was afraid she might cry on air

might be a time for a drink-up, the way things got shushed up in the early Seventies when *The Country in the Morning* and *As It Happens* had, later, *Sunday Morning* came along. But nobody's doing that. Nobody's thinking that way. There's nobody—nobody—up there with that kind of vision. We are selfish. *Morningside*'s risk, loss to the financial crunch is simply not everywhere, and I'm afraid they're going to end up with 60 per cent of everything, instead of 100 per cent of something."

The penitents are too obvious not to point out. "You could be talking about Canada," I say. Gzowski looks at me with the cynical squint which he sometimes peers through the glass of the *Morningside* studio. "That's not a question," he grumbles—quite a criticism, coming from someone who sometimes formulates his dangerous criticisms the way a boxer picks his opponent's lodge. But then, turning it into a question, he addresses the squint. "I could be talking about Canada?" He shrugs the sad, resigned shrug he uses when people tell him he should stop smoking. He says, "I know."

Let's get this straight. Peter Gzowski is not retiring. Whether or not he is leaving *Morningside* is not quite so clear. It is not particularly clear what Peter Gzowski's intentions are. In September, he told *The Globe and Mail* that this would be his last season. "I'm thinking things," he says now—a misreading that began this fall when he realized that his announced departure was leaving CBC bases an opening not to replace him, but to rethink *Morningside* and the jobs of everyone who works on it. It is no new far from clear whether there will be a *Morningside*

next year. Nobody—and, to use Gzowski's own characteristically emphatic italics, nobody—at the CBC knows what the future holds.

Jedrej Dzwila, managing editor of CBC national radio news and current affairs, and Alex Paine, director of programming for CBC English radio, have already presented the 12 producers who comprise the *Morningside* staff with the "rough architecture" for the time slot next season. This presentation—conducted with cuts and rumors of personnel shuffles—seems to have successfully bewildered all *Morningside* producers. It does not, necessarily, include any of them. Although no one at *Morningside* imagines that the cuts can be avoided, there is universal dismay at how they are being handled. "I've never witnessed such panic and crisis management," said one producer. "It's tragic—the lack of continuity and the lack of consensus." Sheldagh Rogers, the scrappy and gifted broadcaster who is considered by many as Gzowski's heir apparent, says she has "stupidly no idea" what is going to happen next year. "There will be a program from 9 to 12 that has many of the same values as *Morningside*," says Gloria Bishop. "But whether it is *Morningside* or whether it involves any of the people currently working on *Morningside* is not clear at all."

The lack of clarity seems to emanate from the top down. Alex Paine had no answer that it would remain untouched by the cuts until the end of the current season. Last week, an *Morningside* staff was informed that there is no producers would have to be cut by April 1. The following day that decision was reversed. At the same time, producers were facing the prospect of filing off. Skills from various "domains, documents that appeared as if they would be used to

help decide who stays and who goes. Among other things, producers were asked whether they could read a newsprint, and whether they could do live reporting. The latter seems to favor hard-core skills over the more insouciant-like demands of a program such as *Morningside*. Nobody could hardly slip any lower. "It's really, really bad," said one shales producer.

But one thing remains clear: Peter Gzowski is not retiring. Insert roughly, honey-dipped expletive: "Goddamn!" He is not retiring from the CBC at any rate. How clear does he want this message to be? He wanted to be too clear. "I am not retiring," Gzowski says during an interview. "Despite what Pierre Beatty says—that out of a bunch," I look up at Gzowski. My pen is poised above my notepad. Gzowski looks at me. It is not always warm and crumpled and friendly he says. "That's not SON."

Gzowski's family history usually begins with a flourish. "A groundbreaking engineer-enthusiast-loyalist" wrote Peter Gzowski of his great-great-grandfather, Sir Casimir Gzowski, in one of the many articles he wrote for *Morningside* in the late 1950s and early 1960s, "inspired from having Poland for his part in a revolution in which he fought against his father. He was knighted by Queen Victoria and was appointed her colonial aide-de-camp. Sir John A. Macdonald was among his closest personal friends."

So top-drawer a heritage often surprises listeners who take the

that the young Peter would have flourished on so highly disciplined and insulated an environment. In fact, he flourished. He produced with scholarship to the University of Toronto. And if the suit stains and grey flannels were reflected above, the candidness that he developed on the windswept playing fields and in the daily study halls of Ridley College has never left him. At university, Gzowski set his sights on a career in journalism. The *Toronto Daily Press*, the *Toronto Telegram*, the *Toronto Star*, the University of Toronto *Star*—all would bear Gzowski's frequently misapplied byline by 1952, the year he moved to Moose Jaw to become the city editor of the *Times Herald*.

In Moose Jaw he married Jenny Lamasan—five-foot-two, a red head, an interior designer. The marriage produced five children (all of whom Gzowski claims now as "direct" as well as offspring), but ended in divorce in 1978. Peter Gzowski, seated at the dining room table of the tranquil, somewhat anonymous downtown Toronto condominium where he and Gill Howard (what weekday hours he is not in a radio studio and she is not at work in head of public affairs for the Ontario Cancer Institute/Prostate Cancer Hospital) squirms a little unconsciously at questions of a personal nature. "Jenny gave up her career as an interior designer," he says. "To be a stay at home mother. I was focused on my work."

The internal link lines of the marriage had begun to show as Peter Gzowski passed from the risk of well-known journalists into the realm of media star. The bad-back congeniality this listeners know

is, in many ways, the creation of a driven personality. The exact person to fretta is, clearly, is not the easiest person to live with. The separation coincided with the mother of Gzowski's two-son family into television as the host of 80 Minutes. And it was a plague of ill-conceived proportions, a blow to a large and fragile ego. It was a painful junction of domestic and professional unhappiness.

So who's the villain? asked Gzowski, as he looked out from his condominium to the bleak prospect of a wind-blown Lake Ontario and reflected in a marriage that lasted long ago. "I was the one who was always downcast. I was the one working late." (The out, as men do from their friends and former colleagues have pointed out, who was putting in the windy late calls with fellow writers at the real bar of Toronto's Park Plaza.) "So, the villain? Me. But to some extent it was the times."

In a cloud of black-and-white cigarette smoke, Gzowski passed through those doors—from *The Checkmate*, *Daily News* to *Morningside*, to the editor's desk of *The Star* Weekly magazine. In the magazine business, it was clear he was a rising star. It was also clear he was a writer—a writer in the weighty sense used by the magazine that Gzowski then most admired, *The New Yorker*. Gzowski wrote about everything—from a profile of an intellectual Mastermind named Pierre Trudeau (1980), to an essay about why a young singer named Bob Dylan was important (1980). Says John Macfarlane, editor of *Toronto Life*, "I remember the awe in which I read him, even then. He had turned *The Star* Weekly into the most exciting magazine the country had ever seen, and he surrounded himself with wonderful



**On air with Rogers:** *Morningside* producers face the prospect of living out *That's Incredible* fates

Polish name and the Prime-ministerly unfussiness of the voice to evidence of a more contentedly ordinary, rural background than Gzowski's upbringing was not particularly rural. And it certainly was not contented. He was born in Toronto in 1924—the only child of a hard and unhappy marriage. His surname, rebranding, he was, and more or less remains, a de facto WASP. His knowledge of Polish is even less than his barely minimal knowledge of French.

He became Peter Brown when his young, divorced mother moved to the Grange town of Galt and remarried. But Peter Brown—why, some-poked and even once assembled than a teenage boy as supposed to be—became Peter Gzowski again when his grandmother, A-Cat H. N. Gzowski, bought the 1611 St. George 12 and 13 at one of Canada's most prestigiously blue-blooded boarding schools, Ridley College in St. Catharines.

Listeners who enjoy Gzowski's comical touch might imagine

writers—people like Sylvia Press, Jack Butler, David Lorne Stern and Guswold himself had this conversational way of writing—a style that was new and fresh and intimate. A lot of traditional magazine writers kept their distance from their readers in those days that Guswold was there.”

He was there, as the highly structured stories that are, to this day, the basis for the way he likes to construct interviews—interviews that, remarkably, he calls “jazzes,” the magazine writer’s term for stories. “A typical Guswold jazz,” says Alex Frane, “I’d want to ask you about this, but first I want to ask you...” And that always results in how carefully he has thought things through. Guswold knows in the first few minutes of an interview where he wants to be in the last few minutes.”

The transition from print to radio is often a difficult one. But remarkably, the rhythms, rhythms, rhythms, the delicate balance and the ironic pique of emphasis that are so familiar in interviews of his *Morningside* bulletin today were there, years before he first approached a microphone. This style did not come easily; it still doesn’t. He does not lose his pieces off a fact to which thousands of overflying,



■ Gzowski as *This Country*: an instant, quirky success

Canada nationalism was erupting as a real force. John Diefenbaker, Lester Pearson, Robert Trudhoe, Margaret Atwood, Robertson Davies, Irving Layton—these were people Canadians wanted to learn more about. And they did not want to be lectured to about them, or sermonized by them. They wanted to chat with them. *This Country* in the Morning became the perfect place to hear what they had to say.

Under Frane and Guswold, the program was willing to try almost anything. “Peter once played cribbage with Gordon Sanchez,” recalls Frane. “On radio! Now, if you want to talk about risk-taking, say playing cribbage on air.” Guswold, far from being a quiet and unassuming, almost went into his own with an idea of what was going to happen in hour two—a action-trap set act that the carefully researched and structured *Morningside* does not emulate. (*Morningside*’s details are carefully staged in daily story meetings with the program’s producers—stories that Guswold always attends but by no means dominates. Long-term themes, such as this year’s recurring “Essentials” feature, are done up at annual presscon brainstorming sessions.)

*This Country* in the Morning travelled frequently—a possibility that

has that always made the disgraced old Jewish Street headquarter. His comments are made within the context of a very serious present. It is the same anxiety present in that cold, loughnaded Margaret Atwood, prior to her interview for her new book, *Alias Grace*, told a *Morningside* producer that, with the innocent CBC on air and the reports that this was Guswold’s last year, she was afraid she was going to come on the program and simply start to cry. Celia Dufresne, the owner of the night Dufresne’s bookstore in Vancouver, says that the possible demise of *Morningside* feels to her “the part of the dis-

*Morningside*’s staff for a while that the loss of the view—the program—“corrected, spoiled, behind a glass wall,” according to one producer—does not exactly match its loughnaded rampant enthusiasm. From a bureaucratic point of view, rational ideas are troubling presences. Guswold’s assistant, Shelley Anstee, remembers getting a call from the CBC president’s office one weekday morning—“One of *Besty*’s predecessors,” she denotes. The secretary said that the president wanted to speak to Peter. When she asked who the president was on the line, and would I put the call through. This

was, say, 10:15 on a Tuesday morning. And there I was, explaining to the office of the president of the CBC that Peter Guswold was on the air. But Peter Guswold was on the air for three hours every weekday morning, that Peter Guswold had been on air for three hours every weekday morning for the past 10 years, and that perhaps the president of the CBC could speak to Peter Guswold some other time.”

But if the anxiety has been drifting in for a while, it hits, in recent months, settled heavily. Margaret Atwood did not cry during her interview—no, but the interview spiraled. (“A nice place,” and Guswold—which is about as effectively self-congratulatory as he gets.) But tears are by no means uncommon these days in the CBC building. Anxiety is as high as morale is low—a dangerously counterproductive mood-set that comes at the very moment in its history when the CBC should be looking to what creative resources it has left for its future. Says one *Morningside* producer: “There is no leadership. No vision. There isn’t even the courtesy of the greeting of the troops. People fluster has never set foot in the *Morningside* office.” Says another: “We’re asked if anyone up top—Alex Frane, Jeffrey Green, or Harold Berkeley, the vice-president of English Radio—would care to see this mountain of mail we’re getting about the cuts. Apparently, they’re not interested.”

Guswold never misses an opportunity to complain about the CBC building. It is never, at times, that he knows it more than he knows the cuts. For the cuts, at least, are a known commodity. The building looks as something even more ominous—concrete proof of the possibility of monumental, irreversible institutional decline.

On his way to the working room, Guswold greets us at his glowing, second-floor office. He says: “The thing about this building...” The thing about this building is that it’s overbuilt by what the building represents, he stops in mid-sentence. It is a Canadian building that does not, as is frequently the case on air, circle around itself and come at its subject from neither depressive angle. The pause extends into glass silence.

It is a building over the walls of a building—a vast complex that, had things worked out differently, might have been something more modest, something more ingenious, something more meaningful, something more full of promise and hope. A better vision might have prevailed. But it didn’t. A big mistake was made

## ‘Gzowski made listeners want to talk to him’

desktop editors and a million half-drunk cups of coffee had gloriously arrived. But he has moved from print to radio and—like the public school books, his long-running column in *Canadian Living* magazine, and the occasional “jazz” elsewhere—back again to print with such alacrity his essential, almost daily recognizable voice. “The key to Guswold’s success on radio,” says MacIntyre, “was that he wasn’t a radio guy. He was a magazine guy without a magazine.”

The *Star Weekly* was killed in 1968. In 1969, he returned to *Morningside*—this time as a staff writer, in his words, “to inform and flatter the art set to go home again.” He resigned nine months later. And Guswold might have been a dimming star in the low-coloured firestorm, were it not for Frane, then a long-haired, bespectacled CBC radio producer with a recurring aim for a radio program that became, in 1971, *This Country in the Morning*. The two-weeking program enjoyed not only the youthful vigor of its creators. Frane, at 36, was the eldest member of the program’s 14-person staff; Guswold was 39, it also had the eager support of a management team that refused a standard radio network. And it managed to catch, within its weekly, casual content, the interest of the three journalists Robert Fulford remembers that it was a bit “right away. There was nothing left to it on air. It was the best radio there was in the country. I may even have been the best Canadian radio ever.”

*This Country in the Morning* made the assumption—in an assumption that *Morningside* continues—that Canadian subjects are inherently interesting to Canadians. Remarkably enough, this quirky programming directive re-emerged successfully throughout the culture at large. The program hit its stride at the same time that

was extremely costly but that greatly enhanced its reputation as a national idea. This, along with the national book tour that have made the publication of Guswold’s books *Opening Toward The Sunrises*, *The Game of Our Lives*, an *Obsession* and *The Morningside Papers*, helped him into the ranks of creature—a genuine Canadian celebrity. This pro-Canadian stance—not exactly welcomed by a man who cherishes privacy—has been put to good use. In 1986, he founded the Peter Guswold Foundation for the Promotion of Literacy—now called the PGL—and has in the past decade raised about \$5 million for literacy across the country.

*Morningside*, as the other hand, rarely dispatches Peter Guswold anywhere. His recent trip to Montreal to interview Pierre Trudeau was a rarity. And the reason for the difference is simple. The CBC, the revolution of the early 1970s—the products of which still dominate the network 30 years later—was extremely well funded. “I don’t remember worrying about money,” says Frane. “No *Morningside* guy always has to worry about money.”

*This Country in the Morning* went off the air—due to a former Guswold staffer—also. Ted Williams, now *The Wylie Mays*. The legendary Williams hit a homer in his last act, Mays, who made the most famous catch in baseball history, lumbered around in the outfield through his prime. After only three seasons *This Country* hung on its heels at the peak of its game.

The youthful adventure at the program depended on a spirit of optimism that, in the corridors of the now broadcast center, is in very short supply. Guswold’s frequent criticism of the new CBC building in Toronto, for instance, is far more bitter than the good-natured gram-

■ Frane (left), Guswold, Peter MacIntyre and Robert Cross prepare for 90 Minutes Live, *Morningside*



■ On air with Margaret Trudeau and Allan Fotheringham: private and public disappointments

mering of all our national institutions.” Florence Cybulska 30 versions, a *Morningside* listener Ivan Martindale, her voice cracking with emotion over the telephone, says: “You have to understand, I wasn’t born in Canada, and *Morningside* opened a window on the country for me. But now I worry about what is happening to the CBC.” He worried that the window is closing, and because I come from Central Europe I know what it is when something precious is kept off with rather than defended in earnest.”

To be fair, the anxiety has not suddenly arrived. It has been clear to

well overbuilt by what the building represents, he stops in mid-sentence. It is a Canadian building that does not, as is frequently the case on air, circle around itself and come at its subject from neither depressive angle. The pause extends into glass silence.

It is a building over the walls of a building—a vast complex that, had things worked out differently, might have been something more modest, something more ingenious, something more meaningful, something more full of promise and hope. A better vision might have prevailed. But it didn’t. A big mistake was made





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# Backpack

TECHNOLOGY

## CYBER-SORORITY

BY PATRICIA CRISHOLM

Until last summer, about the closest Lesley Magnus got to cyberspace was the obligatory computer class at her high school in Scotland, a small town near Trenton, Ore. "The computer room is always full of guys playing the games," says 19-year-old Lesley. "Most of the girls only go there when they have to." Even her 17-year-old brother's obsession with the family computer failed to rub off—the war games he played for hours on end did not appeal to her. So when a teacher suggested that she try taking a summer job at Toronto company that designs sites on the Internet's World Wide Web, Lesley was hesitant. But in less than a week at work, her fears had evaporated. By the end of the summer, she was even something of an expert, having written a guide to the Web. She still remembers, though, how it felt when she first encountered the approving, information-age wingman of the Web: his become. "I was out in the cold," she says. "I was afraid I might mess things up."

Lesley's fear of the Web—and subsequent enthusiasm for it—are surprisingly common among girls and women. While the Web has grown explosively over the past two years to its current level of at least 40 million users, women have—until recently—been slower than men to join the stampede. (Only two years ago, some pollsters estimated the ratio of men to women users at 9:1.) New research by American polling firm Yankee Group Partners found that, in the United States, women now make up 40 per cent of Internet users.

The boys' club atmosphere that pervades much of the Web has been partly blamed for the game of cat-and-mouse that women are playing. Women's discomfort with the Web's tech-talk and sometimes agonizing slowness are also barriers. And many women are wary of being sexually harassed by men hiding behind the anonymity of electronic chat groups. "Women tend to pass by the computer and think it's for the children or the husband," says Maggie Muscarello, a Toronto businesswoman who owns a software company and is active in a popular New York City-based group called Webgirls. "They don't realize that once they sit down, they'll be hooked."

There is no question, of course, that many Web sites cater to male interests. The top three search subjects one year ago, for instance,



### Women begin to feminize the Net

Kristen Ricci (left), Maggie Muscarello (right) are surfing

where sports, television actor Paulie Anderson Lee and model Cindy Crawford. But as women flood onto the Web, they are creating their own sites, talking up with other women and—gradually—altering both the style and substance of the Web. In some ways, the very public private life of Toronto Web site designer Carolyn Burke epitomizes what many have come to view as a typically female approach to the Web: the urge to talk about almost anything, from a failing marriage to knowing the cut out of the garden. Almost two years ago, Burke decided to work through a personal crisis by putting her diary on the Web. A startlingly candid, often crass, inner landscape, the diary has become hugely popular, receiving about 1,000 hits (visitors by Web users) every day, and prompting U.S. News and World Report magazine to feature Burke on its cover last month. "I like to think women will add something different to the Web," Burke says. "There is so much room for creativity and inventing new ways of using it."

Typically, Web sites designed specifically for women put a premium on forming networks, as well as offering support and guidance—and someone to chat with. New Yorker Alan Sternman, 38, started her Chatgirl site in January, 1995, when the Web was "hell in the dark ages," she says. The site guides users through the intricacies of the Web, from finding a good ISP to setting up a new account.

## BACKPACK

pages of the Web, while Weblogs, another related site, helps women in new media network with one another. Members are invited to set up local chapters and so far there are over 50 worldwide, with about 10 in Canada. Another site, *WebMoms*, links to other resources for women on the Web. Two new sites, one for teenage girls, another for younger girls, are related to creative writing, have recently been added.

In many ways, women seem to approach the Web with greater seriousness than men. "Women tend to view the Web as a tool for getting something done," says Maria Klawns, a professor of computer science at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver who also develops gender-neutral computer games for children. "Men, on the other hand, view it as a place for entertainment, exploration and fun." And according to many experts, e-mail should perhaps be reserved for male, given women's love affair with electronic mail. They are far less likely than men, however, to speak up as a member of a group of men and women who have signed on to a so-called chat line, a technology that allows a group of users to communicate as if they are in a room together. For some women, the best way to feel comfortable is simply to put the electronic equivalent of a "No boys" sign on the door. Klawns, for instance, is a member of *Sevens*, a nine-year-old Web site that links 2,300 women in 25 countries who are researchers in computer science. "We use it as a professional source, but it also has a socially supportive side," she says. "I don't know of anything comparable for men."

So far, the research team has found that women who are most likely to use the Web tend to fall into three particular groups: university students who use the Web for research; women who work for com-



Bunk: for Web savvy is rapidly popular

## HOT GRRRL SITES

Both the *eNotes* pages (<http://www.enotespages.com>) and *WebMoms* (<http://www.webmoms.com>) are excellent starting points

From hockey to wrestling, the *WWRW Women's Sports Page* (<http://www.wwrw.com>) is for female sports fans.

The *Canadian Women's Health Network* (<http://www.web.healthcanada.ca>) is a good source for information on current health issues.

Gender issues are given a historical treatment in the *Women in History* page (<http://www.womeninhistory.com>).

The *21st Rock* (<http://www.21strock.com>)—*andromeda.rock.html* is a directory with links to some of the more extreme sites.

"It was pretty easy except for remembering stuff like women.com," adds another 19-year-old, Kristina Ross. "I can't wait till we get to my house."

Of course, there is life without the Web. But if being part of the world is still as much an advantage, and not just a necessity, that is likely to change in the next decade. "If you're uncomfortable with it, you can still use the old ways to communicate," says the University of Winnipeg's Silvestra. "The women I know there will be definite downfalls to not being on the Web." □

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## TWIN PEAKS

As the tiny community of Whistler, B.C., the site of several World Cup ski events, there is one competition that is rarely discussed openly—a healthy rivalry between the resort area's two great mountains. Whistler Mountain president Doug Forsyth prides to describe it as "co-opetition." This fall, Whistler Mountain and Blackcomb were awarded the skiing industry's first-ever "triple crown." The mountains were selected by all three of North America's top magazines devoted to the sport—*Snow Country*, *Ski and Snowboard*—as being the best overall in the continent. Whistler and Blackcomb were evaluated on everything from the total number of high-speed chairlifts to the quality of the ski food and customer service. And while the prize has given the resort bragging rights over its main rival, Colorado's legendary Vail, it has also given new force to a spirit of dare-it-be said—competition between the two peaks.

They are owned by different companies, each with its own distinct operating style. Whistler Mountain is the western. The privately held corporation Whistler Mountain Ski Corp. took its first visitor up a chairlift in the winter of 1986. Blackcomb, which is owned by the publicly held Vancouver firm Intra-west, began operations in 1981. Through aggressive marketing and investment in high-speed chairlifts and snow-making facilities, it began lacking away at Whistler's market share almost instantly

Then in 1987, the upstart finally shaved Whistler aside. Generally, Blackcomb has outdone its rival by three to four per cent, attracting 553,000 skier visits last year.

Marketing data show that out-of-town visitors tend to think of the two mountains as simply the twins plan. The reason they picked Whistler Resort is its winter gateway in the first place. (In fact, the two resorts are marketed as one destination outside British Columbia.) But in the regional market, and especially in Vancouver, the competition for brand loyalty is fierce.

Among the roughly 5.7 million skier visits to the resort last year (down from 1994's North American record of 1.6 million), 50 per cent came from the local area—a fact not lost on the two companies, which try to outdo each other to attract those customers. David Thompson, president of the Whistler Resort Association, concedes that each mountain wants its own identity in the minds of locals. In 1993, Blackcomb put in a splashy new restaurant, and that led—according to Thompson—to a complete overhaul of Whistler's food and beverage services. "And if one goes out and berles up all the number of snowcats it's got, the other will make sure people know it's got the best snow-making equipment," he notes. "They're always trying to outdo each other. And that's probably the biggest reason

for their success." Thompson's Mark Mellor, 37, is a western skier who enjoys both sides. "Blackcomb is a really slicka pension while Whistler is more of a mom and pop outfit," he says. "I prefer the service at Blackcomb, but Whistler is the purer skiing experience."

Scott Carrell, general manager of Blackcomb, says he has bigger things to worry about. Vail—pending approval of a complicated merger involving three other resorts—intends to spend \$27 million this year to market its mountains and \$80 million in improvements to its facilities. By comparison, the Whistler Resort Association's marketing budget this year is \$4.2 million.

Whistler has already spent \$1.2 million, the lion's share of its capital budget,

on a new high-speed gondola to replace the Quickway lift, which failed last winter and caused the deaths of two skiers and injury of nine others. Last month, a B.C. coroner's report called for tougher inspection practices and regulation of lift operators. Meanwhile, at least three survivors plan to launch lawsuits against Whistler. Asked whether the negative publicity has affected Whistler's prospects, Forsyth said he doubted it would have a dramatic effect. "We're trying to reach a settlement with all the victims, whether they're suing us or not," he said. "We're just trying to put this behind us."

In a way, Whistler's future is pre-ordained. A development cap of 32,000 bed units will be reached, assuming present construction levels continue. By the year 2000, by then, most are expecting Whistler's growth curve to flatten out. Thompson says the key to future success may be the non-skiing visitor.

For people who just want a winter vacation," he cites the expansion of retail outlets, which have grown 25 per cent in the past two years, as a major draw. "We could do anything up a shopping mall," he adds. "For most people, something to do with their kids after they come off the mountains."

The rally question remains, is the triple crown big enough for two heads? Carrell and Forsyth say the Sedona everybody else knows. "They are friends," Thompson says. "But at the end of a trail, as a downer Vancouver corner, they'd both be saying, 'My mountain is better.'"

PETER WALLACE/Whistler

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# SOLE SURVIVORS

Boomers learn how to pamper their aching feet



MINNIE WITH PAINFUL, FROM CORN TO PINCHED NERVES AND PERMANENT, PAINFUL DUCKING OF BONES

There was a time when Helen Snider scoffed at comfortable shoes. "I wore the highest heels or the highest platform or whatever was the height of fashion," says the former liaison who-Snider. "I'd see people on the street wearing comfortable shoes and think, 'Oh, I'd rather be dead.'" But Snider, 44, has traded in stilettos for three pairs of high-tech comfort shoes.

"Especially, I had a bad time with it," recalls the resident of Thornhill, a Toronto suburb. "The first pair I chose was not very attractive. But once I wore them for 18 hours, I wouldn't take them off. I was more comfortable in my shoes than in my bare feet."

Snider isn't the only baby boomer tussling her heels for the shoes that promise ease to wear. Comfort is the most sought-after quality among shoe buyers 45 and older, says Marlene Adkins, a senior retail consultant with Toronto-based J.C. W. Adams Group. And they are willing to increase their spending by as much as 50 percent to get it.

"You can only imagine it is going to be more of an issue as we get older and our feet get stiffer," says Adkins, who notes a series of focus groups on shoe preferences this year. According to Jennifer Walker, co-owner of The Best Shoe Museum in Toronto, last season's first because an issue where mass production started in the late 19th century. Before that, shoes were custom-made of soft, flexible materials. "What we have done with mass production is build shoes to stand up to the rigors of fighting with your shoe to see who wins," says Walker.

Snider would be all right if fashion did not require people to stick their feet in narrow shoes, adds Winnipeg podiatrist Martin Colledge. Podiatrists estimate that 80 percent of North Americans experience foot pain at some point in their lives. About half the cause can be attributed to poor footwear, especially high heels and tight shoes. Shoes not only cause problems or aggravate an existing foot condition, adds Colledge. In their way, their effects usually show up around middle age. "It is really an insidious, gradual process, and then you reach a point where your foot doesn't like it any more."

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## Tips for the walking wounded

Shoes with built-in comfort features can go a long way toward preventing and relieving foot pain. Important features:

- **sturdiness, lightness and a pillow, shock-absorbing sole.**
- **breathable materials, such as leather or nylon, to help prevent conditions such as athlete's foot.**
- **shoes should be a thumb's width longer than the longest toe and leave room at the sides for toes to wiggle. Shopping at the end of the day, when feet are swollen, is best—if people can stand it.**

A tight fit will eventually cause everything from corns to pinched nerves and permanent, painful thickening of the bones. High heels have weight onto the front of the foot and put extra pressure on the bone behind the big toe. As a result, women who wear high heels develop bunions—an enlargement of the big toe joint—at about nine times the rate of men, says Toronto podiatrist Harley Mitchell. Even wearing the wrong sports shoes can hurt, adds Glenn Capeland, author of *The Foot Doctor*. He says boomers who overdid their fitness routines in the 1970s and 1980s, or who are desperately trying to get fit now as they approach 50, are starting to feel their feet. "One of the big things is they might have worn tennis shoes to risk," he says. "Now they are getting to a stage where, forget running, they are having trouble walking."

Many boomers are having problems with their feet, shoe stores and retailers are rising to solve them. For anywhere from \$150 to more than \$400, specialty stores now offer shoes with latex soles, tiny channels that allow the shoe to breathe, and extra space for a custom arch—an insert that corrects imbalances in the feet. They are all packed into shoes that look at least halfway stylish, says Snider, who adds that she no longer looks like she is wearing "weird, orthopedic things." And they are packaged and sold as high-technology. Nike recently installed a computer in its Manhattan store that decides which shoe style is the best fit. Backersock last month introduced a new version of its sandals featuring a computer-generated custom orthotic base. And last spring, H. H. Brown Shoe Company (Canada) Ltd. introduced its first "health shoe," aimed at relieving foot-related pain all through the body. Like most modern shoes with custom features, the design for the Bluewell Body System shoe is based on biomechanical research. The result, claims president Darrell Harris, is a shoe that helps the wearer walk better. "You actually feel like you are being propelled forward," he says.

While experts agree on the importance of comfortable shoes, they also say consumers should cast a skeptical eye on manufacturers' claims. "A lot of it is overkill," says Mitchell. "A good supportive, lightweight shoe is going to be beneficial. Anything past that isn't really necessary."

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# CALENDAR

Barney Miller goes to the symphony, Jane Eyre gets musical, primates go on parade, the bands play on

**BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
*Nov. 22, 26, 28, 30, Dec. 2* Joseph, Queen Elizabeth Theatre, Vancouver: The Vancouver Opera features Canadian tenorsoprano Judith Ford in the 1893 work by Leon Jessel, a seductively Czech opera about one woman, two brothers and a dark secret.  
*Nov. 29* Moeen Huggan, Metropolitan Tabernacle, Vancouver: The celebrated baroque violinist joins the Pacific Baroque Orchestra as guest conductor and soloist for a program of 17th-century French wood concertos.

**ALBERTA**  
*Nov. 20/Jan. 12* My Fair Lady, Citadel Theatre, Edmonton: Lerner and Loewe's classic musical, with Peter Hutt as Henry Higgins and Jan Alexander Smith as Eliza Doolittle, is given a new twist.  
*Dec. 5/7* Hal Luden, Jack Singer Concert Hall, Calgary: The clinician-playing star of TV's Barney Miller joins the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra for a pop program.

**SASKATCHEWAN**  
*Nov. 23/29* Canadian Western Agribition, Regina: More than 4,000 livestock exhibits, including cattle, swine, sheep and horses, are complemented by stocking trials, horse-borne events and an indoor rodeo.

**MANITOBA**  
*Nov. 30* Spell of the West, Centennial Concert Hall, Winnipeg: The Vancouver-based folk-rock musician and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra combine for music from the group's *Open Heart* symphony.

**ONTARIO**  
*Nov. 20/21* Jane Eyre, Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto: The world premiere of a musical revision of Charlotte Brontë's classic romance stars Marie Schifano as Jane and Anthony Crivello as Edward Rochester.  
*Nov. 29* Fund-raising Concert, Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto: Big Ozawa, the conductor who first made the Toronto Symphony Orchestra famous, returns to lend the SO through an evening of Tchaikovsky, Mozart and Beethoven.

**QUEBEC**  
*Nov. 16, 18, 21, 23, 27, 30* Saint-Archaire and J. Pughart, Place des Arts, Montreal: The Montreal Opera presents a double bill with American soprano Diana Soviero singing both the title role in Puccini's *Madama Butterfly* and Nedda in Leoncavallo's *I Pagliacci*.  
*Dec. 6-March 10* Primates, Montreal Museum of Fine Arts: A unique series of numerous primate species illustrates both the technological and changing views of humanity's closest relatives.

## SPOTLIGHT

**JOHN EDWARD**  
*Nov. 25* Symphony Nova Scotia: Grammy-nominated, multi-talented Canadian pianist John Edward is the artistic director of the orchestra's 1991-92 season. He will perform "Chopin's 18th-century piano concerto, one of the most popular of the genre."

**NEW BRUNSWICK**  
*To Jan. 5* Jack Thompson: Commercialized Space, The Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton: More than 40 works from the gallery's permanent collection by the Saint John native, a pioneer of abstraction in Canada.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**  
*To Jan. 26* Painted Constructors, Confederation Centre Art Gallery and Museum, Charlottetown: The gallery exhibits sculptures made over three days by 80 high-school students who created the works from wood, nails, paint and "found objects."

**NEWFOUNDLAND**  
*To Nov. 25* Man, Eastern Edge Gallery, St. John's: Works with a conceptual theme by two Canadian artists: series of her *Maestro* home by lithographer Margaret Deell and New Brunswick oil painter Merle Dixon's aerial views of Haida.

**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**  
*Nov. 29-30* Far North Film Festival, Northern Arts and Cultural Centre, Yellowknife: The first annual festival of film and video about the circumpolar world and its people has more than 50 screenings scheduled.

**YUKON**  
*Nov. 28* Gryphon Trio-Concert, Yukon Arts Centre, Whitehorse: The Toronto-based group—piano, violin and cello—bring their contemporary approach to chamber music to the North.

# NEXT

A sampling of upcoming diversions

## FILMS

*The Crucible* Daniel Day-Lewis and Winona Ryder team up in Arthur Miller's adaptation of his own play about the Salem witch trials.  
*The People vs. Larry Flynt* Woody from *Toy Story* plays Flynter magazine's megalomaniac publisher, with Courtney Love.  
*Jerry Maguire* A romantic comedy starring Tom Cruise as a sports agent trying to get back in the game.  
*Hemlock* Kenneth Branagh's four-hour version, with John Gielgud as Garrick and Kate Winslet as Ophelia.  
*Delight* Sylvester Stallone rescues a bunch of people stuck in a tunnel.

## VIDEO

*A Time to Love* An adaptation of John Grisham's 1987 novel, about a white lawyer (Matthew McConaughey) defending an act of vengeance by a black man (Spike) in a legalist world.  
*The Island at St. Ives* Morris and Val Kilmer, David Hewitt and Marian Brandt stage an action comedy in the fantastical world of M. G. Wells.  
*The Cup* Kevin Costner remakes *Butch* with a golf ball.  
*Chloe* Patricia Richardson plays a physical abuse victim in a CIA conspiracy.

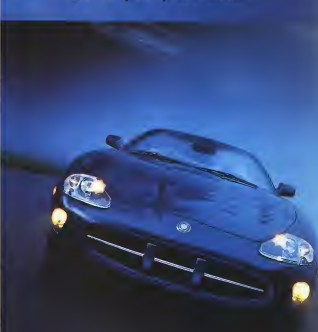
## BOOKS

*The Works of Samuel Margaret Drabble* (McClelland & Stewart): The eminent British novelist traces a family's unraveling when the matriarch abandons everything to live as a hermit.  
*Painting Places: The Life and Work of David B. Wilson* David Wilson (University of Toronto): An exhaustive study of one of Canada's little-known but best artists.  
*Yves Saint Laurent* Alice Rawsthorn (Doubleday): An in-depth study of the French designer's battles on and off the runway.  
*The Borne Transah Over Adventure* Martin Gilbert (Douglas & McIntyre): An acclaimed historian chronicles the lives of 750 Holocaust children sent to Britain.

## AUDIO

*Les Huguenots* Orchestre du Centre Symphonique, Vol. 8 (Meridian): More chants from the chest-thumping work.  
*The Ultimate Set Collection* Various artists (Meridian): A best-of collection of some of the very best R & B.  
*Song a Song with Weber* (Jazz): The beloved storybook characters come to musical life.  
*Concepcion* The artist formerly known as Prince (J&R): A three-CD opus taken as three hours of "love, sex and liberty."  
*Most Wanted Woman* Michelle Shocked (J&R): Another collection of humorous, offbeat hits from a semi-retired American singer-songwriter.

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## Crime A mountain of smut

In the Mountains, Ont., office of Project P, the Pornography Crime Unit of the Ontario Provincial Police, a Hewlett-Packard printer 600c printer grows wildly as it spits out smutty pages, which fall steadily into a two-inch stack on a tray. Each printout is a color photograph of one or more naked children, some in sex acts with other children, some in sex acts with adults, some with their genitals displayed. Operating the computer is Det. John Nickel, 38, his blond mustache held back by a black headband with the words "0000". The largest street gang in the world? emblazoned on his T-shirt. Nickel has a formidable job sitting through up to 30,000 computer files, about 1.5 gigabytes of material, in what police say may be the world's largest-ever seizure of computer child pornography files. "I have to do a breakdown of what each picture is," Nickel says last week. "We need a faster printer."

The trail to the seizure of that staggering stock of smut began with a tip from the district attorney's office in San Jose, Calif. A federal grand jury there indicted 16 people in July on conspiracy charges after law enforcement officials and they uncovered an Internet chat room known as the Grinch Chat whose members swapped child pornography. In one case, members were giving online instructions to two participants who were molesting a 10-year-old girl. U.S. Customs and the FBI identified one of the accused as a person using an Internet service provider in Ontario, with the code name "MacPhisto." U.S. Customs passed that information on to the OPP, and last week the Ontario force revealed that on Oct. 2, its agents raided a house in Richmond Lake, 800 km north of Toronto, where they say they seized up to 30,000 files and a powerful computer. Video shows worker Trevor Davis, 22, in to appear in court on Nov. 18 on charges of possessing, importing and distributing child pornography.

The case shows how the Internet and ever-faster modems have become a powerful tool in the hands of the world's pedophiles. Canadian police are currently investigating or prosecuting more than a dozen cases involving possession and distribution of child porn via computer. Pedophiles find others who share their interests, and then swap stories, images and even video clips. They can also disguise their identities with code names provided by companies called anonymous remailers. "There are tremendous numbers of ways in which you can hide yourself as the Internet," says Jim Carris II, the co-founder of



Photo by David J. Phillip



**Police make an arrest in a child porn ring on the Internet**

**Davis in 1997 photo (left); Matthews 'leaky ship'**

the Canadian Internet Watchbook. "And the problem is only going to get worse. If the police think they have a challenge today, they won't see anything yet."

The police are scrambling to catch up. Det. Staff Sgt. Bob Matthews, in his eighth year as head of Project P, says the unit got underway about three years ago. Now, he says, computers are involved in one way or another in all the child pornography investigations that his staff of eight detectives undertakes. He plans to hire four more officers. "It took me a while when they guys came in and tried to explain it to me," Matthews, a 31-year vet-

eran of the force, says of the new medium for pornography. Now, Matthews is the proud owner of a Compaq laptop and says "Thank God I'm finally getting up to speed on it."

Meanwhile, police probes are finding other uses for computers in Vancouver, B.C. Narayan Waters, a city police officer who works on pornography cases alongside the RCMP, says most of the child porn site seizures "still comes on the mainline if not through the mail." But she has also investigated several cases where men hooked onto the Internet and pretended to be children in order to get into increasingly intimate computer conversations with teenagers. "You could warn your child before. Don't talk to strangers," says Waters. "Now, they came right into your house."

To fight those crimes, there is increasing cross-border cooperation among police. At the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa, Customs attaché Richard Mervin says he regularly exchanges information on computer-internet-related child porn with many different jurisdictions across Canada, from British Columbia to Newfoundland. Matthews calls the cooperation with the Americans "enlightened." By tracking child porn chat group participants to their home towns, Mervin adds, police have the opportunity to uncover local criminal offences. As far how much criminal activity is taking place, he says, there is still "no way far as to get a handle on the volume of these things."

The job of taking the Kirkland Lake case to trial will take the police a long time. Last week in the Project P offices, officers were beginning another grim task: reading the first three volumes, each two inches thick, of child porn stories printed out from files found during the bust. Those represent just 22 out of approximately 375 stories the police have already identified among the material. There are also more than 150 video clips, some of them horrifying in one, a child rapes another while the one being raped cries out in pain. Some of the pictures were recognizable from previously discovered child pornography books, but others appear to be new. Staff Matthews, who had to fight back tears as he described the contents of some of the videos to reporters. "I mean, this is pretty scary stuff."

PETER KUTENBERG/VIEW

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Fiennes dangerously in love with his wife in *The English Patient*

A desert romance shimmers on screen

## Erotic geography

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

In Michael Ondaatje's novel *The English Patient*, a geographer imagines the Sahara Desert wonders if there is a name for the hollow of a woman's neck just above the breastbone. When he finally gets his answer, he is told it is "the nectarar siccus," although there isn't such a thing. "I'd give it the wrong name," Ondaatje recalled last week in an interview with *MovieLine*. "I'd been planning to fix it later on and give it the proper name, but I'd forgotten." Now, the years after its publication, the novel has a new incarnation as a ravishing epic. Adapting it for the screen, British writer-director Anthony Minghella had to lose entire sections of the story, but he kept in the business about the erotic geography of the neck—using the correct name. "Anthony looked up the medical terminology, and I found it was called the supernal notch," says Ondaatje. "So the joke between him and

me now is that he named it, but I found it." Movies adapted from well-loved literary fiction are often disappointing. But with *The English Patient*, an unusually close collaboration between author and director has produced an exceptional film. Although the movie is not a literal adaptation of the book, its literary complexity shines through. While Ondaatje did not re-write the screenplay, he consulted with Minghella at every stage of script, and joined the filmmakers on location (in Italy and Tunisia) and in the editing room. "I was very lucky to have wound up with this crowd," says the 53-year-old author. "I was allowed to participate without being arbitrarily responsible for the product. Anthony and I both felt the film and the novel are very different creatures."

With Ondaatje's blessing, Minghella—creator of the 1991 hit *Trains, Men, Dogs*—has captured the heart of the novel while simplifying its narrative. The basic story remains the same. Near the end of the Second

World War, in a ruined Tuscan monastery, a traumatized Canadian nurse named Eliza (Juliette Binoche) devotes herself to caring for a single patient, Armand (Ralph Fiennes), who has been severely burned in a Canadian plane crash over the Sahara. The only boy to his past is a scrapbook passed into a volume of Hieronymus.

Minghella reconstructs the events leading up to the crash as part of a lengthy exposition mapping the desert on the eve of the war. Armand falls dangerously in love with a colleague's wife, Katherine (Kristin Scott Thomas), taken with his memories as the stories of two soldiers who show up at the monastery—Cammerigan (Willem Dafoe), a Canadian that turned war hero who is suspicious of Hans's patient, and Rip (Nyveen Andrews), an Indian bomb-disposal expert in the British army.

Ondaatje's novel is deceptively romantic. His scenes are surreal like film. Yet, with multiple voices flipping back and forth through time, happening around Italy, Africa, England and Canada, the narrative is ultimately poetic. "The film images are scattered around scenes in a mosaic," says Minghella, "as if somebody had already seen a film and was in a hurry to remember the best bits. But films live or die on the strength of their internalized psychology."

Michael is not that intrigued by narrative or character is a story scene."

Consequently, Minghella narrowed the story's central focus, concentrating on the romance between Armand and Katherine. And, casting between the Tuscan rain and backdrops to the desert, he lets events unfold chronologically. It is as if he had taken a silent camera, artistically composed still images, and carefully laid them all together until a figurative painting emerged.

And what a painting it is. Not once David Laus's *Landscape of Arches* (1982) and *Desert Zingaro* (1983) have landscape and romance been so seamlessly folded into the sweep of history like *The English Patient*. The English Patient is a tragedy of lovers separated by war and by their own choices, but it is a much better, more complex film than *Love's Run*—an opera (which has not held up very well over the years). And like *Landscape of Arches* it finds breathtaking images in the life and words of the Sahara Desert. But the

word is not scenery so much as metaphor—the shifting slits of mystery itself.

While the images have the power and epiphany of a Hollywood epic, the film's intimate focus into erotic obsession is more reminiscent of Bernardo Bertolucci's *Last Tango in Paris*. Minghella peels away the narrative layers of this adulterous romance gingerly, like a bandage. And a lyrical collage releases the love scenes—Fiennes dipping a cream-colored dress all over Binoche's shoulder as *Stolen Night* waits through the sound track.

The cast is superb. Fiennes (Schneider's *Lost*, *Ques Skat*) projects an irresistible vulnerability, his severe features evoking the war-torn beauty of Scott Thomas. Her performance is a revelation. After stealing scenes from the sidelines in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *Buffy* Neen and *Angels and Demons*—she finally blossoms as a romantic lead. Binoche, meanwhile, strikes a neutral balance between fear and compassion. Doing as a Canadian takes some getting used to, but he suits the open, sagebrushed Canavaggio.

"In writing a novel, usually I don't have an image of what my characters are like from the outside," says Ondaatje. "I've behind the wall. But they all seemed very right to me. Ralph Fiennes isn't doing the kind of act that I believe can do sometimes. It's more reactive. There's a sense of fear or fear people really creating something."



Scott Thomas: a revelation as the romantic lead

What is rare about *The English Patient* is that it has the scale of a Hollywood epic but seems unclouded by Hollywood compromise. With American producers Sam Zuckerman, whose literary adaptations range from *Our Fine Hour* (see *Circle a Not*) to *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, Minghella pitched his script to the studio. "Theater's Embassy-

For us, we're, but I insisted on casting bigger stars. "In their position, I might have felt the same way," says Minghella. "They were being asked to finance a \$30-million [U.S.] epic about mystery and nationality, by somebody who's directed tiny films. With their cold eye, they considered that a sound's good deal for me."

In the end, Miramax Films financed *The English Patient* "with an interference whatsoever," says the director. Throughout the process, Ondaatje served as a sounding board, helping Minghella put some creative tension between his two roles as writer and director. "Sometimes he argued on behalf of the film, sometimes on behalf of the script," Minghella recalls. "Very rarely did he argue on behalf of the novel, although everything I did was in danger of annihilating the novel. He's the most modest of men, reluctant to assert his authority as the author."

For Ondaatje, helping *The English Patient* to the screen makes a breakthrough. It was a name. Scenarist, that drew him to reading as a child in St. Louis. The influence of cinema is refracted through his writing, and he has made some funny into filmmaking. But he has learned "that while it's an art form I'm highly respectful and conscious of, it's something I couldn't do. It's the performing and writing simultaneously."

Minghella's film, meanwhile, played being born of fresh readers to Ondaatje's novel. "It's an interesting symbiosis," says the director. "What's fun is that people can't remember any more what was in the novel and what was in the film." Then he adds, "I definitely were so supposed to be at the phone and at the art, but a film—when it's not held together by a commercial success—can be the most potent art form we have. It can show you the close-up of a woman's neck and give you a whole world, a desert landscape, in the next cut. That expanding and contracting eye, the mix, is so visceral." □

## Literary skulduggery

SWANN

Directed by Anne Bennett Gyles

Like *The English Patient*, it is a story of memory and artifice, a *Grand Illusion* of secrets and lies. In *The English Patient*, the architect of a book by Hieronymus, pictures and paintings are pasted into the pages. In *Swann*, it is a scattering of warts left by a murdered man. But *Swann*—based on the 1987 novel by Canadian author Carol Shields—does not take place in exotic lands, or against the sweep of war, and there is no epic-scale romance. The trailers suggest that it is a murder mystery, but it is not even that. *Swann* is a literary whodunit, a tale of authorship and artistic integrity. In fact, what's most surprising about the film is how it exposes the petty concerns of publishing. When it falls in line in surrendering to the petty conventions of the industry.

Swann (Orlando Richardson), a best-selling author based in Chicago, is asked to research a book about an obscure poet from rural Ontario named Mary Swann, who has spawned a literary cult after be-

ing found one-handed in the side of her farm. Swann finds herself competing for the story with an elderly writer named Jenny (Sally Hawkins). And holding the key to the poet's secrets is a foodstore librarian named Rose (Barbara Franks), who has created a homemade shrine to Swann's legacy.

The drama revolves around the sketchy allusion that develops between Rose and Swann—a small-town Canadian and a big-city American who, on the quiet of maternal co-production, are portrayed by an Irish and an English woman. Irish actress Franks (My Left Foot) delivers a heartfelt portrait of a woman suddenly out of her depth in the literary world. But Richardson, teeming through his dialogue with averted glances, plays the neurotic, emotionally guarded author with perfect too much precision.

The men are sizeable stereotypes—Rose's nurturing husband (Sean McCann), Swann's insouciant publisher (David Cobble) and the dreamboat with a too bad (Michael Ondaatje). But *Swann*'s real pleasures lie in the uneven direction by British film-maker Anne Bennett Gyles. Using the flashback to the murder scene, the promises more than this literary intrigue can possibly deliver.



It takes in the snow—Riopelle will be ever channel what is left of his sugar into art?

Art

## Riopelle in winter

BY MARK CARDWELL

Nature has always been an endlessly strong theme in the career of Quebec painter Jean-Paul Riopelle. So it seems fitting that the 73-year-old—the country's most acclaimed artist ever internationally—has chosen to live out the last days of his life on Deux-Grèves (Crosby Island), a secluded, picture-postcard spot in the St. Lawrence River 180 km northwest of Quebec City. Confined at least some of the time to a wheelchair because of advanced osteoporosis, Riopelle is in a state of severe depression over his physical deterioration. "Like many artists in his condition, Jean-Paul has never really left the wall to live," says longtime friend and retired Montreal showman Christopher Clavien. "His life is not in danger, he could live the way he is for a long time. [But] he is just a well man."

Serious health problems do not appear to have completely extinguished the creative spark of an artist who has produced more than 5,000 works over the past 50 years. On Nov. 14, Riopelle's latest—and possibly last—creation will be unveiled at the Montreal Book Show. Entitled *Le Crapin*, the work is a compilation of 12 signed etchings (adapted from drawings Riopelle did on the theme of the circus over four-month periods in 1980). Completing the album—75 copies of which will go on sale for \$12,500 each—are six chromolithographs (prints written

by Quebec singer-poet Gilles Viganois). The work, says Viganois, is the culmination of a 30-year friendship that began in Paris when he sat up one of his poems for the artist. "Jean-Paul had snow in his eyes," Viganois, 72, recalled in a Montreal newspaper last week. "We swore that one day we had to do something together. That was it." Montreal art historian François-Marc Gagnon, who wrote the introduction to the new album, calls it "a vast, astonishing work that fits very well with what Riopelle has been doing the last few years. It's his style, his way his world."

Some art experts are not so sure. Questioning the extent of an ill Riopelle's participation in the privately funded project, they wonder if the highly technical etchings, done by a professional printer, make *Le Crapin* more of a commercial venture that relies on Riopelle's name than a genuine work of art. "Too sure [*Le Crapin*] is beautifully done, but I don't think it will add anything to Riopelle's career," says Simon Blais, a Montreal art gallery owner who specializes in post-1945 Canadian abstracts. Although Riopelle declined to be interviewed, friends and associates insist that he did indeed control the etching project, which was carried out in a workshop next to his seven-bedroom seasonal abode on Deux-Grèves in the summer. Jean-Paul worked with an on almost a daily basis, says album co-publisher Michel Tétrault, who, together with the printer, spent much

of the summer at Riopelle's home. "In fact, this project seemed to be the only thing that really excited him."

Whatever the extent of Riopelle's involvement in *Le Crapin*, the work is likely to re-ignite interest in both his career and his behavior, often harrowing personal life. Born in Montreal on Oct. 7, 1923, he had a childhood marked by isolation, boredom and a disconcerting mother whom he referred to as "the police." According to a recent French language biography by Montreal writer Hélène de Billy, Riopelle's constant attempts to defy and undermine his mother's authority helped to forge the rebellious character that would later become his artistic attitude.

In 1936, Riopelle met art tutor Hiram Benson, the first of several influential people in his life. Benson introduced Riopelle to two central elements in his life: oil painting and nature. Riopelle continued to paint as a hobby after he joined Montreal's École Marcellin (a teachers' design school) in order to gain student status and avoid conscription in 1943. Balking at the repressive culture of the time, the restless young artist began to experiment with his art, playing with shadows and depths and turning objects around until they became unrecognizable.

It was at the École de Marcellin that Riopelle met teacher and painter Paul-Émile Borduas, who adopted Van Gogh and Matisse. Under the guidance of Borduas, Riopelle and a handful of other young Quebec artists worked exclusively in abstraction. Because of the spontaneous, unconscious style they developed during daytime artistic jam sessions, the "groupé bordeau" soon became known as "les automatistes." Marcellin Marcelle Person, a still-life artist, and one of two female members of the group "it was all very avant-garde, very powerful socially. We were seen as revolutionaries."

In 1946, Riopelle married Françoise Lévesque, a mother of two and 10 years old, according to de Billy, the first of many women in his life. The couple moved to Paris in 1948, joining the thriving postwar artistic community in the French capital. The vagueish, James Dean-like Riopelle met and befriended 20th-century creative giants, including French writer André Breton, "King of the Surreal" at the time, and movement, Breton labeled Riopelle an "untrapped surrealist" (a surrealist trapped) whose youthful but savage automatist style—then unknown in Europe—was not a product and a reflection of the rugged Canadian wilderness. During this period, Riopelle and his fellow automatists drafted the seminal *Revolutions*, a manifesto proclaiming art free from bourgeois and Christian society.

In the early 1950s, Riopelle painted in several museums in his small Paris studios, producing what most experts consider to be his greatest works, a series of huge abstracts called "Nécessaires." When he signed

with the prestigious Pierre Matisse gallery in 1954, he instantly became Canada's most famous painter—at the age of 31. "He's been in the big leagues ever since," says Gagnon, who has written an upcoming book on the automatist movement. "While most Canadians are more familiar with the Group of Seven, only Riopelle—and now, maybe, Michael Snow—enjoys such a colossal international reputation."

Flush with time and money from the sale



*Le Crapin: do la (The Fire Breather)*, suggestion that the new project is more commercial than artistic

## The ailing Quebec artist unveils what may be his last work

of his paintings in the finest art galleries of New York City and Paris—and on his own after Françoise left him, because of his numerous affairs, and returned to Montreal with the children—Riopelle indulged in a wild existence. His life was hectic with intensive hours of painting, fast cars and all-night parties. He also earned into a turbulent, sometimes violent, 35-year relationship with the late American painter Joan Mitchell. "Riopelle's marriages," says de Billy, "that Riopelle conducted well after 30, opened his star faded in the 1980s due to the rise of American pop artists such as Andy

Warhol. "The never met or heard of anyone who has lived life like Jean-Paul," says the beryll Charvet, who acquired his first Riopelle painting in 1958 by buying the painter as an art vending machine while they were lying on a Paris street following a night of drinking. "He was always on the edge, he never slept. He has lived three lives at 200 miles per hour."

An increasingly lonely Riopelle decided to return to Canada in 1972. "He missed his culture, hockey, hunting and fishing," recalls Viganois. From his luxurious, part-time studio residence he built in the Laurentian Mountains north of Montreal (he continued to shuttle between Paris and New York until he settled permanently only on Deux-Grèves in 1980), Riopelle became an avid outdoorsman and a renowned expert on using canvas—on his snow gear in particular—in subjects for figurative paintings, photographs and ceramics. Diagnosed with osteoporosis in the mid-1980s—a period when he became the first Canadian artist to have a painting sold for more than \$1 million—Riopelle was forced to work sitting down and switched to more-modern techniques involving spray paints, markers, stencils and metallic paints. Most of these graffiti-like works—including the 30-frame, 130-foot-long *Howling at Ross Lauro*—were by Riopelle completed in the last few years of his life. Le Crapin—were painted by critics who considered them "aberrant" in his career.

While admitting that Le Crapin's collection will never rival that of Riopelle's best-known works from the 1950s and 1960s, Gagnon agrees that the new album is nonetheless an important work. "Artists continue to evolve throughout their lives and work around the social, financial and physical limitations that are imposed on them at every stage. That is exactly what Riopelle has done and, hopefully, will continue doing." At present, however, that seems unlikely. Now requiring the help of three people—his companion of 19 years, Huguette Vachon, 67, and two full-time attendants—Riopelle rarely leaves his sparsely furnished home on Deux-Grèves. Still, Vachon, who arrived here from Miami after Riopelle's old friends, insists that "Jean-Paul isn't sick, he's tired," and that "on his good days" he is still intellectually vigorous, with a twily sense of humor and gusto for life. It remains to be seen whether Jean-Paul Riopelle will ever again be able to channel that vigor into art. □

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## Books

## The big, bad West

BOWERING'S B.C.:  
A SWASHBUCKLING HISTORYBy George Bowering  
(Fishing, 416 pages, \$32)

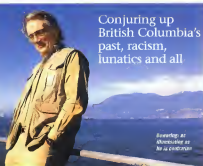
**W**hower said that history is written by the victors never expecting to come out like this. As George Bowering's account of British Columbia's past makes plain, most of those who might be called victors in the Pacific province have been white people. Folks of other colors have, until very recently, generally wound up on the losing side. But Bowering's tale is anything but conventional.

The white son of a Princeton schoolteacher and a successful poet and novelist, Bowering has produced a riveting reading of events with all the racism, hypocrisy, lunatics and charlatans left in. And in British Columbia, there have been plenty of all of them.

About the only thing that the volume shares with more traditional histories is chronology. It starts at the beginning and ends very close to the present, managing to include the nonfiction one year ago of former premier Mike Harcourt (who, by Bowering's account, was virtually unique among B.C. premiers for his low-key normalcy). But the beginning for Bowering is not the beginning that most previous historians have chosen: the coming of the Europeans. Instead, it is the not-beginning: the creation of the world from a mass of sand by Old Man, as told in various fashions over many centuries by elders of the region's numerous aboriginal peoples. And Bowering, who teaches English at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, avoids the pretensions of more academic historians who sometimes strain to make every event in a given period conform to some larger vision—turning the entire 13th century, for instance, into the tale of the Black plagues. For Bowering, his province's ignominious history is instead a smattering of individual stories, written down as they might be told around a smoky campfire—or over a glass of good whiskey and a Havana cigar—each one lasting just long enough to get to the punch line.

That is not to say his account is flip or

frivolous. Far from it. It is, in fact, frequently moving—even tragic, as history often is. It does include a host of colorful supporting characters, men like Bill Miner, the gruffly honest trapper whose career—portrayed in the 1937 Canadian film *The Grey Fox*—was briefly interrupted in 1906 by his arrest and confinement near Kamloops at 65 (by 1907 he had escaped from prison and resumed his killing in Georgia). But there are also lessons in Bowering's pages that today's British Colum-

Conjuring up  
British Columbia's  
past, racism,  
lunatics and allBowering: as  
historian as  
his cartoonist

biacs would do well to think deeply about.

That is particularly true with respect to the province's first peoples. In his treatment of their story, Bowering is impressively evenhanded. He makes no attempt to sidestun his account of the depredations that white settlers visited on the province's natives. He recalls singular atrocities such as the scalping in 1840 when a Hudson's Bay Co. factor named Donald McLean, searching for an accused murderer, vented his anger by pumping bullets into an elderly Quw'wuts' youth's chest, his daughter and her infant baby. He also records more insidious crimes, such as the introduction of smallpox. And he chronicles the more recently revealed abuses directed at native children in the name of Christian education in residential schools.

At the same time, Bowering is unsway-

mental in his account of traditional native practices, noting in one passage how during a potlatch, "The host might cause a half-dozen slaves to be brought into the feast house and brained with stone clubs made for this purpose. A few slaves? There are plies more where they came from."

Bowering's take on his province's political history is equally unvarnished, if on the whole less sympathetic. With few exceptions, the people who have run British Columbia—from long-forgotten first premier, John McCreight, and his self-named successor, Amor de Cosmos (born Red Smith, on down—are revealed as "men who would look good wearing big red putty noses." However, even Bowering's large capacity to appreciate the comic side of human venality fills him when he comes to deal with the final decade of the long-running Social

Credit movement. Recalling from the tale of founding the many scandals suffered by Bill Vander Zanden's government, Bowering excurses himself by observing "if that is what it takes to be a historian, I would rather be a novelist."

Still, as a historian, Bowering is a rare ton, in as disarming as he is contrarian. His wry style is (very) occasionally irritating, as when he persists in referring to residents of that country south of the border as "U.S. Americans." And his text would have benefited from more frequent proofreading. But this book should be required reading for every British Columbian. Bowering, meanwhile, should be allowed to write without more until he has tickled the history of the rest of Canada—hypocrisies and all.

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## The Essential Internet Guide



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setting up home offices for their own  
growing businesses. With sales of  
PCs and Internet access booming, more  
and more homes and businesses will  
soon be on-line. If you don't want to  
be left in the dust, stay tuned to *The  
Essential Internet Guide*: instructs you in  
the hows and whys of getting your  
home office up and running, and find-  
ing your business its place on the  
World Wide Web (WWW).

*Net Business* will explore some of  
the packages available for setting up  
your personal work space, and explain  
how you can save your business time  
and money. *Net Personalities* will check  
in with some famous wired Canadians  
to see how they have made their con-  
nections useful, while *Net & Site Picks*  
will be your guide to the best Web  
hits to offer.

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home, you will need as much easy access  
to the outside world as possible. That is  
where the Internet can help. With a few  
key strokes you can search over 20 million  
documents at a go, and gathering informa-  
tion on topics, such as how to run a small  
business, is a cinch with the World Wide  
Web. The information is presented in color-  
ful graphics, text, audio and video, making  
it a pleasure to review.

The resources available on the Net are

You have had a good start, purchasing the  
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everything seems ergonomically sound. But  
now you have got to buy the computer  
equipment that will make your home office  
truly a place of business.

### What's your business?

Like any good businessperson, you must  
first establish a budget. Now that you are  
your own boss, nobody's going to push you  
around anymore. Not even the computer.

### Net Personalities



**SHEILA CAMERON:** Videographer and  
Sequit Producer on CTV's *MediaWitness*

**Why did you first decide to go on-line?** My first foray  
online was purely career driven. As videographer and segment  
producer for *MediaWitness*, I've been working as hybrid: first  
for several years now to research stories.

**How often do you use your computer at home, and what  
kind of tasks do you perform on it?** It's an unusual and  
somewhat evasive question because the computer and  
Internet access I have at work has allowed my personal  
powerbook to remain in modern life. Consequently, work at  
home is strictly word processing, and I'm now ambivalent  
about creating my powerbook for that of on-line information  
retrieval.

**How has your Net connection helped you?** The Net is  
available as a research and resource tool for both work and personal interests. It pro-  
vides the expediency of a telephone connection coupled with a wealth of text and images  
I may download at my discretion.

**What are your hopes for the future of the Net?** I must reiterate the sentiments I  
expressed in a recent opinion column for *Sequit*: An *Life* magazine. I will gladly wait  
for this recent technology to reach its potential, safe in the knowledge that we Net  
users are shaping both content and outcome.

**mind-blowing.** Special topic groups about  
entrepreneurship, investments, patents and the  
likes are all at your fingertips, and libraries  
and news groups are there for you to use  
freely.

Best of all, the Net is cost effective,  
because you can use e-mail to send notes,  
documents and files to other Internet users,  
clear across the planet, at no extra expense  
to you or your business.

### Net Business: What you will need

So, you have taken the leap and have  
informed the family that the extra bed-  
room in the basement is now your place  
of business. You feel emancipated, giddy,  
but a little frightened and a tad confused.

Walk into the store confident that you  
know exactly what you are there to pur-  
chase, then buy only what is on your list.  
Getting tripped up on the latest gadgets  
and gizmos will quickly throw a budget in  
the toilet.

To decide how much you will have to  
spend, you should have a good idea of  
how your computer will figure into your  
business. Will you use it for bookkeeping,  
or to produce your own brochures (through  
desktop publishing)? Even with the capa-  
bilities to fax, e-mail and sell your busi-  
ness over the Internet, you won't neces-  
sarily have to break the bank. Just know  
what your business' needs are, then buy  
one step at a time. People grow into technology.



"Will a 14-year-old

# hacker

bring my company  
to its knees?"

#### secure

It can keep you up at night, the thought of some adolescent hacker, or, worse, a paid professional, creeping through your company's most valuable information. But if you keep your network sealed tight to avoid the Information Superhighwaymen, you'll miss out on all the resources and opportunities the Internet has to offer.

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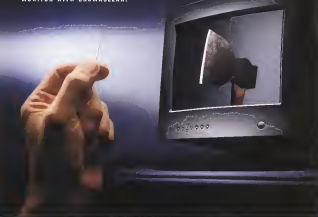
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Most modems are in the \$200 price range, and some of the more popular models are made by Motorola and U.S. Robotics. The majority of new desktop computers come with a built-in fax-modem that sends and receives data at the speedy 28.8 kbit, but if you really feel the need for speed, go for an Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) modem. These speedsters are the way of the future, and several companies like USNET Canada are now offering ISDN service starting at around \$800 a month. They require a special ISDN line, but dish out speeds of 56K (56,000 bps).

The Browser War

There are basically two sides in the conflict: the Netscape 3.0 and Microsoft's Internet Explorer 3.0. Eventually one will emerge the victor. Browsers are an essential tool in navigating your business through the WWW, and like a road map, they tell you where you want to go. Chet, a reputable WWW site about computers and technology, ran a head-to-head comparison between the two navigating tools and found that for Windows 95 and NT users, the Internet Explorer 3.0 is the better product. Using categories like look and feel, speed, mail and news, security, multimedia and the future, the two browsers battled it out to a near draw, but the Internet Explorer emerged the winner due in part to its better Java implementation, broader HTML support and a more customizable interface.

VIRUS WATCH:

Protect your business from getting sick. Here are some pointers to help keep your computer healthy and free of bugs.

- Install and regularly use antivirus software, and scan all disks before using them.
- Back up your important programs and data.
- Try not to download or upload files from your hard disk when using a modem. Use your diskette drive instead.
- Only get shareware programs from the vendor, not bulletin boards.
- Never use pirated software as it is a known source of viral infection.

Not every Net user will agree with these results, because Netscape did win in the key categories of overall performance and outstanding mail and news clients. But Explorer won in the important categories of look and feel, and HTML support—and it just happens to be free!

NetPersonalities



**RICK BROADHEAD:** Co-author of the Canadian Internet Handbook and the co-host of *Netlink*, a syndicated radio show.

**Why did you first decide to go on-line?** I have been using the Internet since 1991 and it was my fascination with electronic mail that attracted me to the Internet. Back in 1991 the World Wide Web didn't exist and the Internet was still a close-knit community of researchers and academics.

**How often do you use your computer at home, and what kinds of tasks do you perform on it?** I use my computer every day and it has become indispensable to my business. I use it for on-line research, to create my Internet presentations, to exchange e-mail with friends, colleagues and clients and to prepare letters and other business documents.

**How has your Net connection helped you?** First and foremost, it facilitates business communications. The Internet has become an efficient and convenient means of communicating with my publishers, my editors, my clients, and the people who have read my books. Through my Web site I market my books and my speaking services to prospective clients around the world. Perhaps the most useful feature of the Web has been its ability to reach beyond Canadian borders and increase my presence in other geographical markets.

**What are your hopes for the future of the Net?** Congestion on the Internet is one of the most pressing problems facing the on-line industry. Many people believe that if the current rate of Internet growth continues, the Internet will crash under the pressure, leading to an Internet "meltdown." Numerous recommendations have been proposed, including the use of an "Internet root" or an "Internet shell" that will be available to corporations and home users for a premium price. While industry experts may disagree on the best solution for easing Internet traffic jams, most recognize the urgency of the situation. The Internet needs to improve in speed if it is to be universally accepted as an effective business tool.

The Price of Business

New systems for your home business can be bought for as little as \$1,000 to \$2,000. But remember, you get what you pay for. IBM's Aptiva, Apple's Performa and any Apple that has a Power PC (or is upgradeable) are solid purchases.

For mid- to high-end Pentium and low-end Mac PowerPC systems, you're looking at \$2,000 to \$3,000. Compaq, IBM and Dell will also have good offerings in this price range.

If it's both and whistles you're looking for, \$3,000 and up will get you

powerful laptops like the Mac Powerbook G300 and IBM's ThinkPad. Hefty multimedia systems, with their many fantastic options, will also be at this price point, so check around to see what system will best suit the needs of your business.

Consumer Reports recently rated

desktop computers and found that the majority of the new models do their job and do it well. But the systems that topped the charts (gathering near-perfect scores) were the Dell Dimension XPS P1600, the Compaq Presario 5600, IBM's Aptiva A40, the Apple Power Macintosh G300/120, and the Power Computing PowerWave 604/120.

Shop around, ask questions and give a friend's computer a test drive if you can. A home computer may be a substantial purchase, but getting the right one is just good business. ■



### The Ocean Floor

*I swam to the bottom of the ocean.  
You dive down there. The fish were  
neat, but I wouldn't want to eat them.*



### The Moon

*Look, I walk on the moon with Dad.  
Met a guy named Neil. Nice man,  
but strange clothes.*

### 2183 A.D.

*Battles hundreds of warring planes.  
I couldn't watch the planet if Mom didn't  
stop me for lunch.*

### Gettysburg

*Met the 16th President of the  
United States. Dad said he was real  
smart, but he looked kind of  
silly in that hat.*



### The Jurassic Period

*Walked right up to a giant lizard  
Mom said it ate plants and not  
people. I wasn't so sure.*



### Inside Me

*Followed blood all through the body.  
Dad pointed out the heart, brain and  
other gross stuff.*



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## Women on the brink

LET ME BE THE ONE

By Elizabeth Harver  
(HarperCollins, 270 pages, \$24.00)

A woman watches her ex-husband depart after dropping off the kids, notices he's wear-

ing an expensive new grey coat "with a womanly yoke" and thinks, not without satisfaction, "he's lost his judgment." A single mother confronts her sudden teenage son about skipping French class and her barn on her, calling her a "total failure as a human being,"

after which she absently cleans out their fridge full of moss-covered cutlery. A young girl who is an exchange houseguest surreptitiously ties on a silky black dress belonging to her hostess's daughter and stands at the mirror hugging her breasts "as if to please herself," only to find to her horror that she can't get the dress off again. Moments like these—sadistic, sad, funny and strong enough—abound in *Let Me Be the One*, a polished new collection of short stories by award-winning, Macmillan-based poet and fiction writer Elizabeth Harver.

Nominated for the Governor General's Award in fiction this year, Harver's new collection—her first in eight years—depicts women who break on the brink of taking women who cannot inspire confidence even in their own divorce lawyers. But they are nonetheless alive with hope, yearning—and a kind of subversiveness that gives them and their stories, in order:

In her first opening piece, "Love Begins with Pity," Harver turns a narrative about a self-conscious editor who arrives at a high school to lecture on Canadian writers—only to have all but three students walk out in disgust—into both a treatise on writing and a lesson on romantic longing. When a male student walks her to the bus after class, Jesse (the lecturer) gives him a breathtaking bit of advice: "Make sentimental love just make sure you never achieve it." But at the same time Jesse (the lonely woman) wonders how to stop herself from falling in love with him. Earlier on in class, Jesse has another kind of yearning when she is confronted by a "musical fair girl" wearing seven brood (another language on screen) "as white as Orla's hair." "Even as she is looking at the girl, Jesse makes a mental vow to get herself 'six or seven of those [braces]' when this nightmare is over."

Harver is a house writer. She isn't afraid to cross the considerable power of her language on very small moments in a woman's life. Her characters often seem to be in perpetual close-up. One of the side-effects of such intimacy, however, is a slightly self-conscious feeling, as if that eye, that voice, that talent, needs to journey farther out in search of narrative treasure.

But Harver does journey out in other ways, dropping in scenes that are startling in their force. In "Two Women," The Interviewer, a woman suddenly recalls how her husband played a joke on her by appearing one night in their bedroom wearing a ski mask (making a feeling "that all the major arteries leading to her heart had been destroyed by terror"). In another memorable line, a character recalls sex that satisfies her husband and leaves her "feeling like a flustered servant to catch up." With writing like that, and with all these moments—subtle, strange and otherwise—Harver creates fiction that has remarkable staying power.

JUDITH THORSON

The War Amps

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# How does a free trip to England sound?

You could be one of 50 lucky people on your way to London, England for one week on November 30, 1996. CBC Newsweek is celebrating Air Canada's 50th Anniversary of the first flight from Canada to London by giving away 25 trips for two to London. Pamela Wallin Live will broadcast from London, December 2nd to 6th. Meet Pamela Wallin, enjoy tours of the city and more - all you have to do is watch to win.

## HERE'S HOW TO WIN

Tune in to Pamela Wallin Live on CBC Newsweek beginning Monday, November 4th through Friday, November 22nd (Monday to Friday only). When you see the special Air Canada Anniversary toll-free number, be the 50th caller and you could win one of 25 trips for two to London, England. Every night during the show, at least one trip will be awarded.



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WEEKNIGHTS AT 9PM ET/6PM PT

# Health Care: Condition Critical

## A SPECIAL REPORT

- A province-by-province report by Maclean's explores the costs of the system, the morale of the medical profession, the state of home care and alternatives for the future.

## A SPECIAL CBC NEWS SERIES

In conjunction with Maclean's, The National presents  
*Health Care Cuts: Do We Have A Choice?*

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- In Part 1, The National Magazine examines the impact of cuts to hospitals.
- Part 2, on Wed. Nov. 27, explores the issue of nurses replacing doctors.
- And in Part 3, on Thurs. Nov. 28, The National looks at who should pay for essential services.

## A NATIONAL POLL

How do Canadians feel about their health care system?  
Are they confident or increasingly pessimistic about its ability  
to deliver quality care in the future?

Maclean's teams up with the *Medical Post* newspaper to provide results of this second annual major survey by the Angus Reid Group on the state of the Canadian health care system.

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ON NEWSSTANDS NOVEMBER 25.



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## Unfailingly hip

The astounding phenomenon is a measure of the remarkable power of The Tragically Hip to unify an audience with its music—even as that music has moved away from basic rock beats toward more adventurous melodies and arrangements. With that kind of audience enthusiasm, backed by six highly paid tour managers and a staff of over one million copies sold so far, it's not surprising that their live shows are unmissable. They're coming next from Kingston, Ont.—singer Downie, guitarist Robb, bassist Gord Sinclair and drummer Johnny Fay—comprise Canada's most popular band.

The Hip's latest album, *Trouble at the Mossies*, which has sold more than 500,000 copies, was released in May, which means they'll have had time to perform their new tracks to 12 more songs. With that tally, they will have the opportunity to shout out every

lines as, "We live to harvest our gardens, and, 'For when the policy-weary common on the unfenced land/through white sheep whippers in their cars/one's damned.'"

The Tragically Hip has always been first and foremost a live act, building a following the slow and steady way, with no-one counting touring in the early days a decade ago. Now that band members have begun to start families and success has carried them the right to tell their own stories, their schedule is no longer as flexible as it once was. "I've been a live musician since I was 14, and I've never been a house musician. But Downie, the married father of one who is extremely private about his family life, minimizes that touring is an vital aspect of who we are," says the band's physical, spiritual and emotional core member, who tells us how he and his wife have made it.

In an interview in Toronto park, he is achieving precious proximity with the simple decency of a large straw hat. "We've never really learned to 'work' an album, never thought that was the purpose for being away from home, because I wouldn't be able to see my son. Ultimately [touring] functions as part of the compensatory process."



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# Allan Fotheringham

## Follow these steps to the heights of journalism

**I**n the million is a polite letter from a young man wanting advice. He is wise because he has come to the right place. Advice is the specialty of this department, offered free on almost any subject under the sun, even the subjects of which I never writing. In this case, the polite young man wants some tips on how to become a success in journalism. This is simple, because your humble agent is a world authority on how to become a success in journalism, if not in life. To wit:

Always wear shoes that are loosely shined. It is the best thing a female knows when she meets a man. A wise woman never marries a man who is shined.

Stay away from journalism schools. You can't teach journalists any more than you can teach how to make love. You either got it or you can't. A mature one who knows how to make love just was the model that if she had to live, she'd never know. It's the secret of the chap who asked J. P. Morgan what a yacht cost. He was told that if he had to live, he couldn't afford one. Journalism schools fall into the same category.

Never wear button-down shirts with a suit. Verboten. Most of American middle-class doesn't understand this. It's all verboten.

Never accept a present from a politician that can't be consumed at one sitting. The thing to tell the politician is this: if it's a gift, it's too much, if it's a bribe, it's not enough.

Never argue with a woman. No good has ever come from it. You know the definition of an editor. That's a guy who separates the wheat from the chaff. And prints the chaff.

Learn to lose. The greatest shortage in the world is not scientists who can explain communism or VCRs, or cheap plumbers, or honest lawyers. The greatest shortage in the world is good losers. Most people, when you are telling them about the lot you broke on the 4th ball, are not really listening. They're just waiting for a break in the conversation so they can tell you about the golf blunder operation they had four years ago.

Most people in the world think they are misunderstood. Especially cabinet ministers and high executives. If you strongly at there—utter something "Gee" or "Golly" or "I didn't know that"—it's absolutely sure that they will blurt out, all in the belief that at last they've found



someone who will listen. That's how bartenders make their money, just standing "Uh-huh" while wobbling the bar and listening to unhappy husbands. Throw away your tape recorder. Listen.

To quote the masterful Stetson Page, "Never look back. Someone may be gaining." Never wear cell links with a sports jacket. Verboten. If a politician tells if he can tell you something all the record, excuse yourself and go in the too and don't come back.

The definition of an editorial writer is someone who comes down out of the hills after the battle and shouts the wounded.

Get a good, broad education—while avoiding journalism school—in history, economics, some psychology might help. You don't need English classes, since you're enmeshed of literature anyway.

Travel. It's the finest education there is. The reason for travel is not to learn about other countries, but to learn about your own. The more you travel the more you will understand Canada—not an easy country to understand.

Don't get married until you're 30. If you do, you won't have the time to travel, and therefore educate yourself. Never get anything. If you do, sooner or later you will run into the uncuttable fact that you will have to write something about one of your new friends—stock fraud, leaked expense accounts, groping the waitress, what ever—and you will have lost a friend. The only friend a newspaperman can have is another newspaperman.

Read. If you don't read, you can't write. Be suspicious of everyone. If you watch more than four hours of TV a week, you need serious help. Stay out of the office as much as possible. Newspaper men were better before the telephone was invented. If you actually had to go out and meet people.

Take long lunches. You may die of a shotgun wound inflicted by an irate husband, but you will never die of a heart attack if you have long lunches. Long lunches are good for the heart.

Be wary of journalists at the press club who sell the best stories and can talk very well. Most journalists who can talk very well don't write very well. They lose it all at the bar.

Stay away from people you have never seen laugh. They are dangerous, as well as boring. There are never boring people in the world who there are good listeners.

Never—even, ever—on your writings use the two most useless words in the English language: "should" and "must." It has the same effect on politicians as when your mother told you that you "should" wash behind your ears and you "must" not go out with that girl who arrives on a motorcycle. "Should" and "must" should be criticized from the dictionary.

As the wise man said, you have two ears and one mouth. Use them in the same ratio. Pretend that the "I" key on your typewriter/computer doesn't exist. Devour few newspapers a day. Never play poker with a man named Doc. Never order a martini in a town that still has a high school band. If your mother gives you her age, check it out.



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